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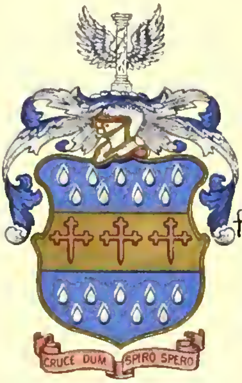

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MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE TWELFTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on MONDAY, the Twenty-
ſecond Day of OCTOBER, in the Year of our LORD One
Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſeven.

PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS, IN MARKET-STREET.

M,DCC,LXXXVII.

1787

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MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Monday, October 22, 1787. P. M.

THIS being the day appointed by the conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen, elected as repreſentatives to ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 23, 1787. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, October 24, 1787. P. M.

A number of gentlemen ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum met, and

On motion,

The returns of the elections held in the city of *Philadelphia*, and in the counties of *Philadelphia*, *Bucks*, *Cheſter*, *Lancaſter*, *York*, *Cumberland*, *Berks*, *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Weſtmoreland*, *Franklin*, *Montgomery*, *Dauphin*, *Luzern* and *Huntingdon*, were read, by which it appeared that the following gentlemen were returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid city and counties reſpectively, for the enſuing year, *viz.*

For the city of PHILADELPHIA.
George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Lewis,
William Will.

For the county of PHILADELPHIA.
Thomas Mifflin,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Salter,
George Logan,
Richard Peters.

For

7.17.28 Chivers 35784 3.50 Darlington - Binding

For the county of BUCKS.
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Samuel Foulke,
Valentine Upp.

For the county of CHESTER.
Robert Ralſton,
James Moore,
Richard Thomas,
Samuel Evans,
Richard Willing,
Townſend Whelen.

For the county of LANCASTER.
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
Joſeph Work,
James Clemſon,
Jacob Erb,
John Hopkins.

For the county of YORK.
Michael Schmyſer,
William Mitchell,
David M'Clellan,
Joſeph Lilley,
Joſeph Reed,
Thomas Clingan.

For the county of CUMBERLAND.
David Mitchell,
Thomas Beale,
Thomas Kennedy,
John Oliver.

For the county of BERKS.
Joſeph Heiſter,
Gabriel Heiſter,
Charles Biddle,
David Davis,
Joſeph Sands.

For the county of NORTHAMPTON.
Peter Trexler, jun.
Thomas Mawhorter,
Peter Burkhalter,
Peter Ealer.

For the county of BEDFORD.
John Piper,
Jacob Saylor,
Abraham Cable.

For the county of WESTMORELAND.
William Findley,
James Barr,
John Irvine.

For the county of FRANKLIN.
James M'Lene,
James M'Calmont.

For the county of MONTGOMERY.
Jacob Reiff,
Robert Lollar,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
Peter Richards.

For the county of DAUPHIN.
Jacob Miley,
Robert Clark,
John Carſon.

For the county of LUZERNE.
John Paul Schott.

For the county of HUNTINGDON.
Hugh Davidſon.

Note, No returns have been received from the counties of *Northumberland, Waſhington* and *Fayette.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Lewis,
William Will,
Thomas Mifflin,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Salter,
George Logan,
Richard Peters,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Samuel Foulke,
Valentine Upp,
Robert Ralſton,
James Moore,
Richard Thomas,
Samuel Evans,

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Richard Willing,
Townſend Whelen,
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
James Clemſon,
Jacob Erb,
John Hopkins,
William Mitchell,
Joſeph Lilley,
David Mitchell,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Davis,
Joſeph Sands,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Burkhalter,
Peter Ealer,
John Piper,
William Findley,
James Barr,
James M'Lene,
James M'Calmont,
Jacob Reiff,
Robert Lollar,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
Peter Richards,
Jacob Miley,
Robert Clark,
John Paul Schott,
Hugh Davidſon.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Thomas Mifflin,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

Mr. Speaker being placed in the chair, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution.

The members preſent were then ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Peter Zachary Lloyd,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected Clerk, and *Jacob Shallus,* Eſquire, unanimouſly elected Aſſiſtant Clerk, who appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified to the faithful execution of their reſpective offices.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, October 25, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of repreſentatives to ſerve in Aſſembly for the county of *Waſhington* was read, by which it appeared that *John M'Dowell, James Alliſon, Alexander Wright* and *John Flenniken,* Eſquires, were duly returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid county, for the enſuing year.

David M'Clellan and *Joſeph Reed,* Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *York*; *Gabriel Heiſter,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*; and *John M'Dowell,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from *James Martin,* praying to be appointed Serjeant at Arms, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *James Martin* was duly elected Serjeant at Arms, and *Joſeph Fry* Door-keeper; and they were ſeverally qualified to the faithful performance of their reſpective duties.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* ſtating divers illegal proceedings in conducting the late election of repreſentatives for the ſaid county, was read, together with the depoſitions incloſed, and praying that *John Carſon*, Eſquire, may not be admitted to take his ſeat as a repreſentative for ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A leter from *Charles Biddle*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*, was read, requeſting leave to decline taking his ſeat as a member of this Houſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That leave be granted accordingly. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to iſſue a writ, commanding the Sheriff of the county of *Berks* to hold an election of a repreſentative, in the room of the ſaid *Charles Bidale*, Eſquire.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Will* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the late Houſe of Aſſembly be adopted for the government of the preſent Houſe, until a ſett of rules and regulations ſhall have been reported and adopted.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Burkhalter*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar*, Mr. *Miley*, Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *Davidſon* be a committee, to deviſe ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee of accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be and are hereby empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr *Piper* be a committee, for examining the laws and minutes of the Houſe, preparing them for publication, and correcting them at the preſs.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lollar* be appointed to collect the fines that may be incurred by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which are or may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

Reſolved, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the choice of printers to publiſh the laws and journals of this Houſe, and that notice of this order be inſerted in one of the daily newſpapers, to be printed in the city of *Philadelphia* to-morrow.

The committee appointed to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that they would lay ſome buſineſs before the Houſe to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, October 26, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of repreſentatives to ſerve in General Aſſembly for the county of *Fayette* was read, by which it appeared that *Theophilus Philips* and *John Gilchreeſt*, Eſquires, were duly returned for the enſuing year.

James Alliſon and *Alexander Wright*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *Waſhington*, appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to bring in a bill to make the ſame allowance to the attending members of Convention as is made to the members of the General Aſſembly, and alſo to provide for the extraordinary expences which may be incurred by holding the ſaid elections.

The committee appointed yeſterday to inſpect the files of the late Houſe, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An " Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the " diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out " therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets " and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other " uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned," read in the late Houſe *September* 25th laſt, be referred to Mr *Robinſon*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *An Act for ſelling and diſpoſing of the* " *reſidue of the donation lands, reſerving part thereof for a town on* Lake Erie, " *to the uſe of the commonwealth*," read in the late Houſe *March* 2d laſt, be referred to Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *An Act for the regulation of auctions and* " *vendues*," read in the late Houſe *September* 12th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Will*, M. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the Commiſſioners of the* " *county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* " Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of ſaid county*," read in the late Houſe *September* 12th laſt, be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee, read in the late Houſe *September* 27th laſt, on the petition of divers perſons claiming lands in the county of *Luzerne*, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee, read in the late Houſe *September* 27th laſt, on the Treaſurer's tranſcript of taxes paid by the ſeveral counties, *&c.* be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, October 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Joſeph Work, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, and *Thomas Clingan*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

The Secretary of Council attending at the door, was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE the laſt ſeſſion there has been a renewal of the diſturbances at *Wyoming*; ſome reſtleſs ſpirits there having imagined a project of withdrawing the inhabitants of that part of this ſtate, and ſome part of the ſtate of *New-York*, from their allegiance, and of forming them into a new ſtate, to be carried into effect by an armed force, in defiance of the laws of the two ſtates. Having intelligence of this, we cauſed one of the principal conſpirators to be apprehended, and ſecured in the gaol of this city—and another who reſided in the ſtate of *New-York*, at our requeſt, has been taken up by the authority of that government. The papers found on this occaſion fully diſcover the deſigns of theſe turbulent people, and ſome of their letters are herewith laid before you. The government of *New-York* has, in this affair, manifeſted the moſt friendly and neighbourly diſpoſition towards this ſtate, and has promiſed to concur with us in ſuch future meaſures as may be neceſſary to ſecure the due operation of the laws, and reſtore quiet in thoſe parts of both ſtates, where theſe irregular and ill-diſpoſed ſettlers have their habitations. To protect the civil officers of our new county of *Luzerne* in the exerciſe of their reſpective functions, we have ordered a body of militia to hold themſelves in readineſs to march thither, which will be done, unleſs ſome future circumſtances, and informations from thoſe parts, may make it appear unneceſſary.

The ſudden and unaccountable obſtruction which the currency of the paper money of this ſtate has lately met with, we earneſtly recommend to your conſideration, as a matter of great importance; the private intereſts of the citizens being very extenſively affected by it, and the public in danger of ſuffering a loſs in its revenue of exciſe, duties and taxes, *&c.* proportioned to any depreciation the paper money may be attended with. Perhaps it may be adviſeable to put a ſtop to the farther re-emiſſions on loan, which are permitted by the law as it now ſtands.

We would likewiſe recommend to your conſideration, the ſubject of a law to regulate the fees of the various officers of the ſtate, eſpecially thoſe of the executive and judicial departments.

The lowering the price of lands in the new purchaſe we now think neceſſary, it being very evident that they will not ſell till this takes place: At the ſame time we are of opinion it would be of advantage to the ſtate, if thoſe who become purchaſers had an exemption from taxes for ſeveral years, as it would be an encouragement to the people to become purchaſers.

Since the expiration of the law for granting lands to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, a number of applications have been made to us by perſons who were entitled, but for want of information did not apply in time; we therefore recommend it to your honorable Houſe to paſs a law, granting a further time for thoſe people to come in and draw for their lands.

Sundry diſpatches we have received from Congreſs are herewith communicated.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, October 27, 1787.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A petition from the committee of ſubſcribers for erecting a permanent bridge acroſs the river *Schuylkill,* at the end of *High-ſtreet,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of erecting the aforeſaid bridge; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from *Michael Billmeyer,* praying to be appointed printer of the minutes of this Houſe, and of all bills which may be ordered to be printed in the *German* language, and a joint petition from *Steemer, Albright* and *Lahn,* of a ſimilar nature, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford* was read, referring to the petition of ſaid *Wells* read in the late Houſe *September* 10th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Ralſton* have leave of abſence until *Thurſday* next.

A memorial from *Mary Byron* was read, referring to her petition read in the late Houſe *March* 29th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw her petitions.

The petitions of *James Young* and *Charles Buſſelot,* read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Davis,* Mr. *Sands,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Barr* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to confer with Council concerning the time, place and manner for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enable the commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a*

" *certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for the* " *uſe of ſaid county,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, October 29, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Thomas Beale and *John Oliver*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *Cumberland*; *Joſeph Heiſter*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*; and *John Carſon*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Dauphin*; appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A letter from *Peter Ealer*, Eſquire, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was read, requeſting to be re-appointed to the office of Treaſurer of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Melchior Steiner* was read, praying to be appointed printer of the *German* minutes, and of the bills which may be ordered for publication by this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Robert Smith*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, printer, was preſented to the chair, and read, containing propoſals for printing the laws which may be enacted, and the bills ordered to be printed for public conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Mary Byron* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with her petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly in *March* laſt, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes* " *and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and* " *alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and to lay out the* " *roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* " Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk," and praying the ſame may be repealed or ſuſpended, ſo far as it reſpects the road to be opened by the act aforeſaid from the diſtrict of *Southwark* to *Gray*'s ferry.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read *October* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon the depoſitions of *Michael Zimmerman*, *Rudolph Kelcher* and *Jacob Hubley* were preſented, and read.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *October* 27th, to confer with Council reſpecting the time, place and manner of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, reported, that Council recommend that *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for holding the ſaid election, that the Aſſembly Chamber be the place, and they propoſe the follwing order of proceſſion, *viz.*

ORDER of PROCESSION.

Conſtables, with their ſtaves.
Sub-Sheriffs, with their wands.
High-Sheriff and Coroner, with their wands.
Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals.
Attorney-General, and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.
Marſhal of the Admiralty.
Judge and Regiſter of the Admiralty.
Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia.*
Naval-Officer, Collector of the Cuſtoms, and Tonnage-Officer.
Treaſurer and Comptroller-General.
Secretary of the Land-Office.
Receiver-General and Surveyor-General.
Juſtices of the Peace.
Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and
Clerk of the Court of Quarter Seſſions.
Clerk of the City Court.
Maſter of the Rolls and Regiſter of Wills.
Aſſiſtant Secretary of the Council.
Secretary of the Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT, and Honorable the VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.
Door-keeper of the Council.
Serjeant at Arms, with the Mace.
Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk of the General Aſſembly.
Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.
Members of the General Aſſembly, two and two.
Door-keeper of the General Aſſembly.
Provoſt and Faculty of the Univerſity.
Officers of the Militia.
Citizens.

Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That the Houſe approve of the time, place and manner of holding the ſaid election.

The committee appointed the 27th of *October,* to arrange and report on the meſſage from Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, to report on that part of the meſſage and papers which reſpect the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne,* and the meaſures taken by Council in conſequence thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage from Council, which relates to the ſudden depreciation of the paper currency.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *M'Lene,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the reduction in the price of public lands.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Piper,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the regulation of fees.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Barr,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage, relative to the expediency of granting a further time for the application of the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line to draw for and take up lands.

Ordered, That the requiſitions of Congreſs for the current year be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to the raiſing of the fœderal troops.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whelen,* Mr. *J. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Dowell,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to the purchaſe of a ſmall tract of country on Lake *Erie.*

A verbal meſſage having been delivered by the Secretary of Council to the chair, it was,

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene,* be a committee, to confer with Council reſpecting the diſturbances exiſting at *Wyoming,* and report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and* "*county aforeſaid, for the uſe of ſaid county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, October 30, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Northumberland* was read, by which it appeared that *Samuel Maclay* and *John White,* Eſquires, were duly returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid county for the enſuing year.

A petition from divers claimants of lands, under *Pennſylvania* titles, within the county of *Luzerne,* was read, praying that the report of the committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly may be taken into conſideration, and adopted, with certain alterations in the ſaid petition ſtated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Van Phul,* in behalf of himſelf and *George* and *William Graff,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh a ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna* to the town of *Sunbury,* in the county of *Northumberland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Phelan,* late a ſoldier in the fifth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu of that which he hath loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox* was read, referring to their petitions preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the iſſuing warrants for the amount of lands ſtated in their ſaid petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Eleazer Oſwald, Hall* and *Sellers, Thomas Bradford,* and *Daniel Humphreys,* were read, praying to be appointed printers to this Houſe.

Ordered, That the ſaid petitions, together with thoſe of *Michael Billmeyer, Steemer Albright* and *Lahn, Robert Smith,* and *Melchior Steiner,* be referred to Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon: Whereupon

Ordered, That the order of the day for the election of printers be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to provide for the wages of members of the ſtate Convention, and to defray* "*the expences of holding the ſame,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, October 31, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Daniel Murphy,* late a Captain in the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he continued in the ſervice until *Auguſt* 1778, when he, with a number of others, was deranged; and ſtating that he hath not received the depreciation due on his pay, although the ſame has been allowed to others in ſimilar circumſtances; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Van Phul,* in behalf of himſelf and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage from Council, relative to the raiſing of troops to be ſtationed on the weſtern frontiers, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the requiſitions of Congreſs of the third of *October* inſtant, for raiſing troops to be ſtationed on the weſtern frontiers, ſo far as it reſpects this ſtate, be complied with, and that a committee be appointed to report a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage and papers reſpecting the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne*, made report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, As in the opinion of this Houſe a permanent force of enliſted troops may be neceſſary to ſecure the peace of the county of *Luzerne*, that the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to obtain permiſſion of Congreſs to raiſe any number of troops for the aforeſaid purpoſe, not exceeding five hundred men.

The Supreme Executive Council being introduced into the Aſſembly chamber, conformably to the reſolution of *October* 29th, proceeded, in conjunction with the Houſe, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, purſuant to the nineteenth ſection of the conſtitution, and unanimouſly elected, by ballot, his Excellency *Benjamin Franklin*, Eſquire, Preſident, and the Honorable *Peter Muhlenberg*, Eſquire, Vice-Preſident, for the enſuing year; and the members of Council and General Aſſembly having ſeverally ſigned a declaration thereof,

The Houſe then, in the order of proceſſion, attended the proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, at the Court-Houſe in the city of *Philadelphia*, and having returned to the Aſſembly chamber,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 1, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Lyon* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna*, at the town of *Sunbury*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from the Preſbyterian congregation of *Middle Octorara*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, and the Firſt Preſbyterian congregation at *Big Spring*, in *Newtown* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, were read, ſeverally praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer of the petitions be granted.

A petition from the adminiſtrators and major part of the legal repreſentatives (in perſon, or by guardians) of *Ann Nedrow*, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that divers real eſtates in the counties of *Philadelphia*, *Lancaſter* and *Montgomery*, were deviſed unto the ſaid *Ann* by her brother *Richard Johnſton*; that the ſaid *Ann*, at the time of the aforeſaid deviſe, and until the time of her death, was under coverture, whereby ſhe was diſabled from making diſtribution of her eſtate; that from the numerous deſcendants of the ſaid deceaſed, it is become impracticable to procure a partition of the ſaid eſtate without the interference of the legiſlature; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the adminiſtrators to the eſtate of her late daughter, *Ann Keyſer*, to ſettle and diſpoſe of the ſame for the benefit of the heirs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nicholas Krehl* and *Daniel Weidle* was read, ſetting forth, that their late father-in-law, *Nicholas Huſeker*, was attainted of high treaſon, and his eſtate confiſcated to the uſe of the commonwealth; that they had taken a decided part in favor of the late revolution, to the great injury of their private property; and as others have been indulged by the legiſlature with the whole of the real eſtate confiſcated as the property of their anceſtors, they pray an allowance or gratuity may be made them of ſome of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Clemſon*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Trexler*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Maclay*, Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *Alliſon*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, Mr. *Richards*, Mr. *Miley*, Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *Davidſon*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Devereux Smith*, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read *March* 9th, 1786, was read, praying relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox*, read *October* 30th, the petition of *Peter Phelan*, read the ſame day, and the petition of *Daniel Murphy*, read *October* 31ſt, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Mary Byron*, read *October* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Work*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Sands*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *October* 30th, on the propoſals of the printers, made report, which was read: Whereupon,

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a printer of the minutes in the *Engliſh* language, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Hall* and *Sellers* were duly elected.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, *Thomas Bradford* printer of the laws which may be enacted, and the bills ordered for public conſideration.

The Houſe then elected *Michael Billmeyer* printer of the minutes and bills of this Houſe, which may be ordered to be publiſhed in the *German* language.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That the Committee of Accounts be and they are hereby directed forthwith to count, burn and deſtroy ſuch part of the bills of credit of the late emiſſion as may now be found collected into the treaſury of this ſtate, and ſuch further ſums as may come in during this ſeſſion, agreeably to the act of General Aſſembly paſſed 25th of *March*, 1785, and report to this Houſe.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *October* 26th, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act

" for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict
" of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein pub-
" lic roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as
" the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and pur-
" poſes therein mentioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the wages of members of the ſtate Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 2, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Brink* and *William Van Gorder* was read, ſetting forth, that they, with ſeveral others, were called upon by the magiſtrates to oppoſe a number of perſons aſſociated under the name of *Connecticut Claimants* at *Wyoming*, who had entered the ſettlement in a violent manner, and with hoſtile intention; that on the 20th day of *July*, 1784, the petitioners were, while paſſing through the ſettlement of *Shawanee*, fired upon and grievouſly wounded by the *Connecticut Claimants* aforeſaid; that in conſequence they have ever ſince languiſhed under much pain and ſickneſs, ſubjected to heavy expence, and rendered unable to obtain a ſubſiſtence by hard labour; and praying this Houſe to grant them relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Nicholas Krehl* and *Daniel Weidle,* to report thereon.

A petition from divers ſoldiers, in behalf of themſelves and others of the late *Pennſylvania* line, praying a further time may be allowed them to draw for and take out patents for the donation lands, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Barr,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Lyon,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition and remonſtrance of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* read *October* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Philips,* to report thereon.

A petition from 230 inhabitants of the county of *York,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 6th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled
" *An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Suſquehanna, *and veſting the right*
" *in* William Van Phul, George Graff *and* William Graff, *their heirs and aſ-*
" *ſigns,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Mid-" dle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip,* in the county of *Lancaſter,* was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the " diſtrict of *Southwark,* for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out there- " in public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads " as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and pur- " poſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 3, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Tate* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled, "*An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Suſquehanna, *and veſting the* " *right in* William Van Phul, George Graff *and* William Graff, *their heirs* " *and aſſigns,*" and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the adminiſtrators and major part of the legal repreſentatives (in perſon, or by their guardians) of *Ann Nedrow,* deceaſed, read *November* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Margaret Davis* was read, referring to her petition read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 23d, 1784, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Clingan,* to report thereon.

A petition from the owners and occupiers of marſh meadow in the northern and ſouthern diſtricts of *Kingſeſſing* and *Tinicum,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 14th laſt, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

On motion made by Mr. *Lollar,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to conſider of and report ſome proper mode to be purſued by this Houſe, in order to effect the ſinking and deſtroying ſuch ſum or ſums of the laſt emiſſion of the continental money, commonly called continental ſtate money, as at this time or hereafter may be found in the treaſury of this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Philips* be added to the committee to deviſe ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

On motion of Mr. *Logan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Chapman,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into conſideration and enquire into the effects of the act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate, enacted *September* 15th, 1786, and to report how far the ſame anſwers the benevolent intention of the legiſlature.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *October* 25th, to inſpect the files of the late Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the report on the petition from the freemen of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter,* in the county of *Cheſter,* read in the late Houſe *September* 23d laſt, be referred to the members from the county of *Cheſter,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell,* read in the late Houſe *November* 30th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Barr,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, reſpecting the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne,* made a further report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* reſpecting the late election in and for the ſaid county, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the ſaid petition be diſmiſſed, for want of evidence to ſupport the ſame.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection* "*of the weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Wedneſday* next, P. M.

* * *

Wedneſday, November 7, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John White, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Northumberland*; *John Irvine,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland*; and *John Flenniken,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington*; appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from *Thomas M'Intire*, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia* for debt, was read, praying leave, from the peculiar circumſtances of his caſe recited in the petition, to bring in a bill, empowering the Preſident in Council, on the proper application of the petitioner, to iſſue a commiſſion of bankruptcy againſt him, as is uſually done in caſes of bankrupts on petitions of their creditors; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Robinſon* was read, ſetting forth, that in *October*, 1781, he took the command of the third company of the firſt regiment of *Berks* county militia, and continued in ſervice until legally diſcharged, for which neither he, nor the men under his command, have received any ſatisfaction; that he has been arreſted for the pay of the ſaid men, and judgment awarded againſt him; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl*, and others.

A letter, in excuſe for the non-attendance of *Peter Ealer*, Eſquire, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *November* 8, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE your reſolution of the thirty-firſt ultimo was forwarded to Congreſs, Council have received information that the members remaining at *New-York* were not ſufficient to form a repreſentation of the United States.

As the danger to the ſtate appears to be preſſing, and the permiſſion ſolicited from Congreſs cannot now be obtained, Council therefore recommend it to the General Aſſembly, to adopt effectual meaſures for enforcing the laws of the ſtate in the county of *Luzerne*, which they are of opinion cannot be done without a permanent force.

The expulſion of the Commiſſioners from *Wyoming* will occaſion a delay in the execution of their duty under the late law: Council therefore recommend that a further time be given for compleating the ſervices expected from them under their preſent appointment.

The caſe of Colonel *Mentges*, ſubmitted to the conſideration of a former Houſe, is recommended to the attention of the General Aſſembly, as he appears to have performed ſundry ſervices, for which he has received no compenſation.

The petition of Captain *Woelpper* is herewith tranſmitted, as the powers of Council do not extend to his caſe.

Conſiderable deficiencies have ariſen in the collection of taxes, owing to the neglect of ſome of the magiſtrates in not proſecuting delinquents, after returns are furniſhed to them by the collectors. This abuſe, in the opinion of Council, merits the attention of the General Aſſembly, either in removing the magiſtrates guilty of ſuch neglect, or ſubjecting them to ſome penalty that may compel them to a faithful diſcharge of their duty.

B. FRANKLIN.

November 8, 1787.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Kennedy*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others, be a committee, to report on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the claim of Colonel *Francis Mentges*.

Ordered, That the petition of *David Woelpper* be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage reſpecting the deficiencies which have ariſen in the collection of taxes, *&c.* be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Treaſurer for this commonwealth.

A memorial from *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable REPRESENTATIVES *of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met*.

The MEMORIAL of JOHN PENN, junior, and JOHN PENN.

YOUR memorialiſts beg leave to lay before your honorable Houſe an eſtimate, from the public records, of the loſſes they have ſuſtained by the late revolution.

Four peaceful years have elapſed ſince the confirmation of *American* Independence, during which your memoraliſts have remained in painful uncertainty with regard to an adequate compenſation from the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*. They now ſubmit the conſideration of that important ſubject to your honorable Houſe, and earneſtly ſolicit their favorable deciſion.

Confiding in the honor and generoſity of a country planted and foſtered by the hand of their anceſtor, your memorialiſts humbly pray that the donation heretofore granted to them may be reconſidered, and that ſuch further recompence for their loſſes may be given by your honorable Houſe, in their wiſdom and juſtice, as the deſcendants of *William Penn* may eſteem proportionate to their claims, and becoming the dignity of a free, independent and honorable people.

JOHN PENN, *jun.*
JOHN PENN.

An ACCOUNT *of the grant of* Pennſylvania *to* William Penn, *Eſquire,* *with an account of the ſales and other diſpoſitions of land made by ſaid* William Penn, *the firſt proprietor thereof, and by other ſucceeaing proprietors, from and between the 4th day of* March, 1680-1, *to* December 1776, *with a computation of the arrears of quit-rent to* March 1779, *and the annual value of the ſaid quit-rents; together with an eſtimate of the value of various articles of property which belonged to the Honorable* John Penn, *junior, and the Honorable* John Penn, *ſenior, in the year* 1779, *before the 27th day of* November *in the ſame year, when the act of Aſſembly was paſſed, entituled "An Act for veſting the eſtate of the late proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *in this commonwealth."*

IN the year 1680, the Engliſh nation being indebted to the ſaid *William Penn,* he applied, by petition to king *Charles* the ſecond, for a grant of a tract of country in *America,* in ſatisfaction for the whole or part for that debt; which petition being conſidered and approved, his majeſty was pleaſed, in compliance therewith, to grant to the ſaid *William Peun,* and to his heirs and aſſigns for ever, his letters patent, bearing date the 4th day of *March,* 1680-1, for a certain tract of land in *America,* then firſt named *Pennſylvania,* under a particular deſcription mentioned in ſaid patent, together with the powers of government. The quantity of land included within the limits of *Pennſylvania,* according to late computations, amounts to twenty-ſeven millions, nine hundred fifty-five thouſand and two hundred acres.

Sales for purchaſe money, which has been paid, and on an annual Quit-rent for ever.

	Acres.
To ſundry perſons, called firſt purchaſers, for the amount of land bought by them between the 4th March, 1680-1, and the month of October, 1682, as appears by a book in the Surveyor General's office, excluſive of two entries, one to William Penn, junior, and Lætitia Penn, for 40,000 acres, and the other to William Penn, nephew to the proprietary, for 25,000 acres, which will be differently ſtated and placed in this account,	874,550
This computation includes a ſale to the free ſociety of traders of 20,000 acres, and another to the London company of 60,000 acres; and becauſe it appears that 14,049 acres, part of this laſt mentioned ſale to the London company, has been ſurveyed in New-Caſtle county, therefore deduct - - - - -	14,049
	860,501
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between October 1682 and the year 1701, - - - - - - - -	83,003½
This computation includes a ſale to the Frankford company of 25000 acres, and another to Sir Matthias Vincent, Thompſon and Cox, of 30,000 acres, and is formed for the moſt part from the records of patents in the recorder's office before the year 1701, no patent book or account books of purchaſe monies received for lands ſold before that time having been kept either in the ſecretary or receiver general's offices.	
It appears that regular books of accounts were kept in the receiver general's office from the 10th Ninth Month, 1701, to the 28th March 1778, which books ſhew that the whole money received on account of the ſeveral proprietaries between thoſe periods amounts to £ 678,891 2 8¾, beſides £ 9,594 18 1 paid in bonds, wheat, flour, or ſervices, making together the ſum of £688,486 0 9¼, excluſive of monies received for manor and appropriated lands ſince the beginning of the year 1757; which ſum of £ 688,486 0 9¼ includes monies received for manor and appropriated lands ſold before 1757, monies received from the government, monies received for lands ſold in Jerſey and Delaware States, for intereſt and quit-rent, temporary rents, ground-rents, and various other accounts, which have no relation to the purchaſe money of land in Pennſylvania, to the amount of £ 325,912 9 4, and conſequently, when deducted, the whole ſum received for the purchaſe of common lands in Pennſylvania, from and between the abovementioned 10th Ninth Month, 1701, and the 28th March, 1778, will amount to £ 362,573 11 5¼.	
It further appears by an account ſtated, that the ſum of £ 12,610 3 6, part of the aforeſaid £ 362,573 11 5¼, was received for the purchaſe money of common lands in Pennſylvania, between the 10th of the Ninth Month, 1701, and the 7th December, 1732, during which time lands were ſold at various prices. Overplus land was often ſold from £ 18 to £ 25 for 100 acres, and ſome times at prices higher, though ſeldom lower, and other lands were generally ſold at or about £ 10 for 100 acres; but, as an exact diſcrimination cannot with certainty be made, and an admiſſion of £ 10 per 100 acres will be a moderate rate of computation, therefore the ſales of lands on this principle, between the 10th Ninth Month, 1701, and the 7th December 1732, will be as follows, viz.	
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them for the ſum of £ 12,610 3 6, at £ 10 per 100 acres, from 10th Ninth Month, 1701, to 7th December, 1732, - - - - - - - -	126,101¾
It appears, that after deducting the ſum of £ 12,610 3 6 from £ 362,573 11 5¼, there will remain the ſum of £ 349,963 7 11¼, which has been paid for the purchaſe money of the common lands in Pennſylvania from 7th December, 1732, to the 28th March, 1778.	
Carried over, -	1,069,606¼

Acres.

Brought over, - 1,069,606¼

And further it appears, that from the 7th December, 1732, to 27th December, 1762, the common lands were ſold at £ 15 10 per 100 acres currency purchaſe money, and one half-penny ſterling an acre per annum quit-rent, and for ſome years afterwards for lands which were ſettled and improved within theſe times; and alſo, that on the 27th December, 1762, theſe terms were altered to £ 9 currency for 100 acres purchaſe money, and one penny ſterling an acre per annum quit-rent, which alteration continued no longer than until the 5th Auguſt, 1763, except in two inſtances, one to William M'Croſky for 200 acres, by warrant of 26th January, 1767, and the other to George Meintzer for 50 acres, by warrant of 4th September, 1769, claimed on the grounds of improvement in 1763.

It appears further, that on the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1765, the mode and terms of granting lands were again altered. Lands were now granted on applications, on the terms of £ 5 ſterling for 100 acres purchaſe money, and one penny ſterling per acre per annum quit-rent, which terms continued till on or about the 6th September, 1769. After this time the mode of granting lands on applications ceaſed, and warrants were granted to all appliers for land on the terms of £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, and one penny ſterling per acre per annum quit-rent.

It appears by accounts ſtated, that the ſum of £ 3082 18 5 currency was paid on account of lands granted on the terms of £ 9 per 100 acres purchaſe money, - - - £ 3082 18 5

That the ſum of £ 19994 7 8½ currency, in lieu of £ 11996 12 7½ ſterling, was paid on account of lands granted on the terms of £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, on applications, - 19994 7 8½

And that the ſum of £ 112177 0 7½ currency, in lieu of £ 67300 4 5 ſterling, was paid on account of lands granted by warrants, on the terms of £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, 112177 0 7½

And that by conſequence, the ſum of £ 214709 1 2¼ was paid on the terms of £ 15 10 currency per 100 acres purchaſe money, 214709 1 2¼

349963 7 11¼

The ſales of lands, therefore, between the 7th December, 1732, and the month of December, 1776, after which time no more grants of the common lands were made by the proprietaries, will be as follows, viz.

To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 7th December, 1732, and the 27th December, 1762, for the ſum of £ 214709 1 2¼, at £ 15 10 currency per 100 acres purchaſe money, - - - 1,385,219¾

To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 27th December, 1762, and the 5th Auguſt, 1763, for the ſum of £ 3082 18 5 currency, at £ 9 per 100 acres purchaſe money, - - - - - - 34,254½

To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 1ſt Auguſt, 1765, and the 6th September, 1769, for the ſum of £ 11996 12 7½ ſterling, at £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, on applications, - - 239,932½

To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 6th September, 1769, and the month of December, 1776, for the ſum of £ 67300 4 5 ſterling per 100 hundred acres purchaſe money, on warrants, - - 1,346,004½

Amount of common lands ſold, - - - 4,075,017½

Grants of land made for an annual Quit-rent, without purchaſe money.

To ſundry Swedes, for lands claimed by them under rights from the duke of York, or by poſſeſſion and improvement, before the date of the royal grant of Pennſylvania to William Penn, Eſquire, as appears by extracts taken from records in the Recorder's office, and patent books in the Secretary's office, - - - 37,037½

To ſundry perſons, called renters, as appears from the records in the above mentioned offices, - - - - - - - - - 9,087½

To ſundry ſervants of the firſt purchaſers and adventurers into Pennſylvania, 4,571¼

To ſundry perſons, not under any of the above deſcriptions, - - 7,261¾

57,958½

Gifts by ſeveral proprietaries to ſundry branches of their families.

To Sir John Fag 50,000 acres, to be held by him in truſt, one half for the uſe of William Penn, junior, commonly called William Penn the ſecond, and the other half for the uſe of Lætitia Penn. It appears, by patents and warrants iſſued in ſatisfaction

of

	Acres.	Per.
of this right, that 1250 acres have been granted over and above the ſaid 50,000 acres, which, added thereto, makes 51,250 acres, of which about 12,000 acres have been ſurveyed in New-Caſtle county, and the remainder lies in Pennſylvania, being	39,250	
To Samuel Carpenter, Iſaac Norris and Edward Pennington, 7000 acres, part of 12,000 acres granted to them in truſt, for the uſe of John Penn, Eſquire, the remaining 5000 acres being granted in right of Thomas Callowhill, who was a firſt purchaſer,	7,000	
To Samuel Carpenter, Iſaac Norris and Edward Pennington, 10,000 acres, to be held by them in truſt for the ſaid John Penn, then born, and other children who might be born of Hannah Penn,	10,000	
To Gulielma Maria Penn, deviſed to her by the laſt will and teſtament of William Penn, Eſquire, dated 27th Third Month, called May, 1712,	10,000	
To Springett Penn, deviſed by ſaid will,	10,000	
To William Penn, Ditto,	10,000	
To Lætitia Aubrey, Ditto,	10,000	
To Thomas Penn, Eſquire, 5000 acres, granted him by five ſeparate warrants for 1000 acres each, dated 12th May, 1732,	5,000	
To Thomas Penn, granted him by one warrant, dated 18th May, 1732,	5,000	
To Richard Penn, Eſq; granted him by five ſeparate warrants, for 1000 acres each, dated 12th May, 1732,	5,000	
	111,250	

Appropriations of land by the proprietaries, from the year 1682 to the year 1776.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract whereon the city of Philadelphia ſtands, ſituate between Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, containing about	1,200	
Springetſbury manor, joining the northern line of Philadelphia city, about	1,830	
A tract at Greenwich, commonly called Glouceſter point,	28	
A tract, called Springfield manor,	4,010	
A tract in Hatfield townſhip,	905	
A tract in Providence townſhip,	28	55
A tract called Gilbert's manor, ſurveyed at firſt for 10,000 acres, but the London company were allowed 5000 acres out of it, in part of their purchaſe, which left for the proprietors,	5,000	
A tract reſerved out of a large tract ſurveyed for the Swedes,	600	
A tract in Limerick townſhip, returned 17th December, 1701, by Edward Pennington,	500	
A tract on Schuylkill,	1,000	
A ſmall piece of ground oppoſite the lower ferry, about,	2	
	15,103	55

BUCKS COUNTY.

	Acres.
A tract, called the mine tract,	304
A tract, called Richland Manor,	10,577
A tract, called Highland Manor, containing 7769 acres; but the London company were allowed 5205 acres out of it, in part of their purchaſe, which left for the proprietaries,	2,564
A tract, called Pennſbury manor, which by a draft in the Surveyor-General's office, dated 13th Firſt Month, 169$\frac{9}{00}$, ſigned by David Powell, contains 6543 acres; and it is obſerved on a piece of paper joined to this draft, that before the proprietor conveyed to his ſon he had ſold certain parts of Pennſbury manor to perſons, called his ſervants; it therefore ſeems uncertain what particular quantity was at firſt ſurveyed for the manor of Pennſbury, but it probably was about	8,000
A tract patented to Ferdinando Paris, but which was ſurveyed before for the proprietaries,	1,500
A tract patented to ditto, but firſt ſurveyed for the proprietaries,	1,500
A tract patented to Richard Peters, in truſt for the Durham Iron company,	4,448
A tract in Falls townſhip, called the Governor's ſwamp,	150
A tract oppoſite the mouth of Mohockamack,	400
A tract in Saucong townſhip,	284
A tract on Lehigh,	508
A tract in Solebury townſhip,	500
A tract in Buckingham,	500
Carried over,	31,235

	Acres.	Per.
BUCKS COUNTY, Brought over,	31235	
A tract in Warminſter,	362	
A tract in Southampton,	429	
A tract on Cook's creek,	607	
A tract on Analamink,	1,500	
Sundry tracts, called Lottery land,	2,821	74
	36,954	74

CHESTER COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A ſtrip of land between Pikeland and Charleſtown, containing	275	145
A tract in Marlborough townſhip,	500	
A tract in Tredyffrin townſhip,	210	120
A tract in Fallowfield townſhip,	500	
A tract on Schuylkill river, joining Bilton manor,	160	
A tract in Weſt-Caln townſhip,	772	
A tract, called Springton manor,	10,000	
A tract in Eaſt-Nantmill townſhip,	63	
A tract in Caln townſhip,	500	
A tract in Caln townſhip,	500	
A tract in Sadſbury townſhip,	500	
	13,981	105

LANCASTER COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Hempfield townſhip, containing	2,816	
A tract, called Coneſtogo manor,	16,000	
A tract on Chickaſalongo creek,	2,103	
A tract in Donegal townſhip,	203	
A tract in Straſburgh townſhip,	1,475	
A tract, called a Strip of land joining a tract or manor ſurveyed for Richard Penn, Eſq;	3,602	149
A tract on the ſouth-weſt ſide of Suſquehanna,	3,000	
Two tracts joining each other, 52 acres and 111 acres,	163	
	29,362	149

YORK COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Manallen townſhip, containing	1,047	80
A tract, called Maſke manor,	43,500	
A tract, called Springetſbury manor, including a tract on which York-town ſtands, and another tract of 2,000 acres,	64,520	
A tract near Conewago,	491	
	109,558	80

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Weſt-Pennſborough townſhip, called Jericho, containing	809	40
A tract in ditto,	828	
A tract adjoining the mountain,	988	
A tract compoſed of ſeveral tracts, including the town of Carliſle, containing together 6,921 acres and 23 perches, according to a return thereof dated 5th April, 1763,	6,921	23
A tract on the heads of Penn's creek,	820	
A tract adjoining the North-Mountain,	3,600	
A tract, called Lowther manor,	7,648	158
A tract in Lurgan townſhip,	647	80
A tract joining the Kittatany Mountain,	55	
A tract in Guilford townſhip,	1,275	
A tract in Hopewell townſhip,	4,045	120
Carried forward,	27,638	101

	Acres.	Per.
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, Brought forward,	27,638	101
A tract in Hopewell townſhip,	970	
A tract in Guilford townſhip,	3,220	80
A tract joining the North-Mountain,	823	40
A tract in Weſt-Pennſborough townſhip,	770	120
	33,423	21

BERKS COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Cumru townſhip, containing	245	
A tract near Reading-town,	99	
A tract, called Ruſcomb manor,	10,000	
A tract joining ditto,	12,200	
A tract in Cumru townſhip,	168	109
A tract on Kind creek,	582	80
A tract on ditto,	1,000	
A tract beyond the Blue Mountains, on Schuylkill river,	646	
A tract on the branches of Swatara,	1,772	
A tract beyond the Blue Mountains, on Schuylkill,	461	80
A tract, called Moſſellin,	2,990	
A tract near Maiden creek,	500	
A tract on a large branch of Swatara creek, beyond the Blue Mountains,	1,431	
A tract in Brecknock townſhip,	549	
A tract in Alſace townſhip,	70	120
A tract, called the Mine tract,	400	
	33,115	69

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in the forks of Delaware, containing	6,500	
A tract above the Foul Rift,	525	
A tract in Mountbethel townſhip,	360	
A tract joining the above,	596	
A tract joining the above,	785	
A tract in Saucong townſhip,	284	
A tract in Macungy and Whitehall townſhips,	2,157	
A tract, part of what is commonly called the Dry-lands,	7,985	
A tract, ditto,	1,890	
A tract, ditto,	500	
A tract, ditto,	1,223	
A tract, ditto,	11,450	
A tract whereon the town of Eaſton ſtands,	1,000	
A tract joining the Eaſton tract,	900	
A tract joining the above laſt mentioned tract,	3,550	
A tract on a branch of Delaware,	523	
A tract on Wallenpaupeck and Lackawaxen creeks,	810	
A tract on Lackawaxen creek,	520	
A tract on Delaware river, beyond the Blue Mountains,	395	
A tract Jonas Seely,	1,001	
A tract called Wallenpaupeck manor,	12,150	
A tract including lake Paupanauming,	215	
A tract near Dingman's ferry,	410	
A tract on Broadhead's creek,	275	
A tract in the forks of Delaware,	134	105
A tract called Safe Harbour,	2,222	
A tract called Shehocking,	520	
A tract called Damaſcus,	4,390	80
Two tracts, containing together,	2,770	
	66,031	55

Some more tracts might be here added, but being ſurveyed a ſhort time after the 4th July, 1776, and ſince ſold by the ſtate, either in part or the whole, are therefore omitted.

Bedford County.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract called Cheſt manor,	1,123	113
A tract including the town of Bedford almoſt,	2,810	80
A tract containing	150	67
A tract in Warriors Ridge Valley,	2,473	80
A tract joining the Grindſtone or Hart's-log mountain,	2,608	
A tract between Tuſſey's mountain and Frankſtown branch of Juniata,	816	
A tract called Highlands, joining Tuſſey's mountain,	763	
A tract in Sinking creek valley,	9,056	
A tract called Nottingham,	1,035	100
A tract including fort Littleton,	119	80
A tract adjoining the Canoe mountain,	5,913	
	26,869	40

Northumberland County.

A tract, called Crooked Dale, on Tunkhanna creek, containing	1,026	
A tract at the mouth of Lycaming,	579	
A tract, called Job's diſcovery,	1,615	
A tract, called Lycaming addition,	320	
A tract, called Lycaming ſecond addition,	180	
A tract, called Neſcopeck,	995	
A tract, called Waphallapane,	601	157
A tract, called the Conteſt,	1,328	
A tract, called Pomfret manor,	4,766	
A tract, called the Manor of Stoke at Wyoming,	9,800	
A tract, oppoſite to the Manor of Stoke,	20,000	
A tract, called the Indian landing,	1,866	
A tract, called Pine Grove,	4,545	
A tract, called Dundee,	3,520	
	51,141	157

Westmoreland County.

A tract, called the Manor of Pittſburgh, including the town of Pittſburgh,	5,766	
A tract, called Penn's lodge,	5,568	
A tract, called Denmark, at Buſhy Run,	4,861	
A tract, called Kittaning,	3,960	
A tract, called Cherryhill,	1,202	40
	21,357	40

Islands.

In Schuylkill fourteen, containing 56 acres 64 perches; thirteen, containing 44 acres 40 perches; and three, containing 23 acres 12 perches,	123	116
In Suſquehanna twenty-eight, containing 3176 acres 80 perches; thirty-five, containing 849 acres; and three, containing 109 acres 105 perches,	4,135	25
At the junction of Suſquehanna and Juniata two, containing 305 acres 80 perches; and 22 acres,	327	80
In Juniata one iſland,	38	50
In Delaware,	11	
	4,635	111

Summary

Summary of the foregoing account.

	Acres.	Per.
Pennſylvania contains, - - - - - - -	27,955,200	

Deductions.

	Acres.	Per.		
Allowance for roads on the whole quantity at 6 per cent.	1,677,312			
Sales of land for which the purchaſe money has been received,	4,075,017	80		
Ditto, for an annual quit-rent without purchaſe money,	57,958	80		
Gifts by ſeveral proprietaries to ſundry branches of their families,	111,250			
Amount of appropriations of land by the proprietaries,	441,534	156		
			6,363,072	156
Balance of land, for which nothing has been received by William Penn, Eſquire, the firſt proprietor, or any of his deſcendants, - - - -			21,592,127	4

It ſeems proper here to remark, that many warrants have been iſſued, and applications entered, at different times, for conſiderable parcels of land, part of the above balance of 21,592,127 acres 4 perches, upon which large ſums were due to the proprietaries for purchaſe money, intereſt and quit-rent, in the year 1779, though the exact amount cannot be aſcertained, and for that reaſon will not be inſerted in the following eſtimate. And it is further neceſſary to obſerve, that the lands appropriated by the proprietaries fall ſhort 2,186,253 acres 132 perches of the quantity they were entitled by the conceſſions to ſet apart and reſerve, worth about three times more than common lands not ſo reſerved; therefore theſe articles taken together, being conceived to be of greater value than any reaſonable allowance which might otherwiſe be proper to make for large waters and bad lands, are the reaſons why no ſuch allowance has been placed among the above deductions.

Computation of the arrears of Quit-rent, ſhewing the balance of thoſe arrears to March 1779, and the annual value of the ſaid Quit-rents.

It appears that very large quantities of land were ſurveyed to the firſt purchaſers between the years 1682 and 1700; and that other ſurveys have been made for them at different times ever ſince; ſome of theſe purchaſers have not got their lands ſurveyed yet, and ſome will probably never apply for their rights. It has been cuſtomary to compute the quit-rent from the date of the ſurveys on theſe grants, but as no quit-rent has been paid on many of them, and it would be impracticable to diſcover the time when each and every ſurvey was made, it is neceſſary to aſſume ſome reaſonable period for the general commencement of the quit rent, as well for the lands which have been actually ſurveyed, as for thoſe which may happen never to be demanded, therefore the year 1700 is fixed upon for this purpoſe, which is thought the more reaſonable, conſidering that the land which may never be demanded under the rights of ſome of the firſt purchaſers will be eſtimated lower, by being charged with a quit-rent from the year 1700, than it would be, if charged as land unſold.

It appears that no charge of quit-rent ſhould be brought into this computation for 14,049 acres of land ſurveyed for the London company in New-Caſtle county, in part of their grant for 60,000 acres, and that the quit-rent on 45,951 acres, the remaining part of their grant, ſhould be charged after the rate of two beaver ſkins per annum for 60,000 acres. And that another tract purchaſed by Thomas Callowhill of 5000 acres, ſhould be charged with quit-rent after the proportion of a beaver ſkin per annum for 12,000 acres; alſo that 20,000 acres, purchaſed by the free ſociety of traders, and 101,760 acres, purchaſed by ſundry other firſt purchaſers, ſhould be charged with the quit-rent of one ſhilling per thouſand acres per annum. And that 687,790 acres, which completes the whole quantity of eight hundred ſeventy-four thouſand five hundred and fifty acres, ſold to the firſt purchaſers, ſhould be charged with the quit-rent of one ſhilling per hundred acres per annum. And upon theſe principles the quit-rent computed on the ſaid eight hundred ſeventy-four thouſand five hundred and fifty acres, excluſive of the above mentioned 14,049 acres, from the year 1700 to March 1779, being

	Sterling.			*Currency.*		
– Seventy-eight years, will be - - -	£ 27,344	5	5½	£ 45,573	15	9
It appears that the quantity of 83,003½ acres of land were ſold between the years 1682 and 1701. Upon 55,000 acres of which the quit-rent of one ſhilling ſterling per thouſand acres per annum was reſerved, and upon 28,003½ acres the quit-rent of one ſhilling ſterling per hundred acres per annum was reſerved, and by an account ſtated it appears that the arrears of quit-rent due to March 1779, on the ſaid 83,003½ acres, amounts to - -	1,468	13	0	2 447	15	0
Carried over,	£ 28,812	18	5½	£ 48,021	10	9

	Sterling.			*Currency.*		
Brought over,	£ 28,812	18	5½	£ 48,021	10	9
It appears that the quantity of land ſold between the 10th November, 1701, and 7th December, 1732, comprehending a ſpace of 31 years, amounts to 126,101¾ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one ſhilling ſterling per hundred acres, payable on the 1ſt of March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to about 4,067¾ acres, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 126,101¾ acres, computed from 1ſt March, 1701, to 1ſt March, 1732, by yearly calculations made on 4,067¾ acres, will be - -	1,009	1	0	1,681	15	0
And that the ſum due for 46 years quit-rent, computed from 1732 to 1779, on the ſaid 126,101¾ acres, will be - -	2,900	6	10	4,833	18	0
It appears that the quantity of land ſold between 7th December, 1732, and the 27th December, 1762, comprehending a ſpace of 30 years, amounts to 1,385,219¾ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one half-penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to 46,174 acres, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 1,385,219¾ acres, computed from the 1ſt March, 1732, to 1ſt March, 1762, by yearly calculations made on 46,174 acres, will be - -	41,845	3	9	69,741	19	7
And that the ſum due for 17 years quit-rent, computed from 1762 to 1779, on the ſaid 1,385,219¾ acres, will be -	49,059	18	4	81,766	10	6½
It appears that the quantity of land ſold between the 27th December, 1762, and the 5th Auguſt, 1763, amounts to 34,254½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And that upon this quantity of land, 16 years quit-rent was due from 1ſt March, 1763, to 1ſt March, 1779, amounting to -	2,283	12	8	3,806	1	2½
It appears that the quantity of land ſold on applications, between the 5th Auguſt, 1765, and the 6th September, 1769, comprehending a ſpace of above four years, amounts to 239,932½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to 59,983 acres 20 perches, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 239,932½ acres, computed from 1ſt March, 1766, to 1ſt March, 1770, by yearly calculations made on 59,983 acres 20 perches, will be - - - - - -	2,499	5	11½	4,165	9	11
And that the ſum due from 1ſt March, 1770, to 1779, on ſaid 239,932½ acres, being nine years, will be - -	8,997	9	4½	14,995	15	7½
It appears that the quantity of land ſold on warrants between the 6th September, 1769, and the month of December, 1776, comprehending the ſpace of ſeven years and three months, amounts to 1,346,004½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt day of March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to 192,286¼ acres, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 1,346,004½ acres, computed from 1ſt March, 1770, to 1ſt March, 1777, by yearly calculations made on 192,286¼ acres, will be - - - -	22,433	7	11	37,388	19	10
And that the ſum due from 1ſt March, 1777, to 1779, on ſaid 1,346,004½ acres, being two years, will be - -	11,216	14	1	18,694	10	1
	171,057	18	4½	285,096	10	5½
It appears that confirmatory grants have been iſſued to ſundry Swedes for the quantity of 37,037 acres of land, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one buſhel of wheat per hundred acres, payable on the 1ſt day of March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the quantity of 36,296¾ buſhels of wheat was due for arrears on theſe grants the 1ſt March, 1779, which, being computed at three ſhillings ſterling per buſhel, amounts to - - - - -	5,444	10	3	9,074	3	9
It appears that the quantity of land granted to ſundry perſons called renters, amounts to 9,087½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated it further appears, that the ſum due on theſe grants for quit-rent to the 1ſt March, 1779, amounts to - - - - -	3,483	10	10	5,805	18	0
Carried forward,	£ 179,985	19	5½	£ 299,976	12	2½

	Sterling.			Currency.		
Brought forward,	£ 179,985	19	5½	£ 299,976	12	2½
It appears that the quantity of land granted to ſundry ſervants of the firſt purchaſers and adventurers into Pennſylvania amounts to 4,571¾ acres, ſubject to the annual quit rent of four ſhillings ſterling per hundred acres, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the ſum due on theſe grants for quit-rent to the 1ſt March, 1779, amounts to - - - - - - - -	751	6	8	1,252	4	5
It appears that the quantity of land granted to ſundry perſons not under any of the above deſcriptions, amounts to 7,261¾ acres, ſubject to various annual quit-rents, reſpectively payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the ſum due on theſe grants for quit rent to the 1ſt of March, 1779, amounts to - - -	699	19	9	1,166	12	11
It appears that ſeveral proprietaries have granted to particular branches of their families, ſundry quantities of land, to the amount of 111,250 acres, ſubject to various annual quit-rents, reſpectively payable on the 1ſt day of March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the ſum due on theſe grants to the 1ſt March, 1779, amounts to - -	811	7	0	1,352	5	0
	182,248	12	10½	303,747	14	6½
Deduct the ſum of £ 106,132 7 1¾ currency, in lieu of £ 63,679 8 3¼ ſterling, being the whole amount of payments made for quit-rent between the years 1682 and 1779, on account of the lands contained in the foregoing account, excluſive of thoſe lands under the title of appropriations, which ſum has been carefully collected from all the proper books in the Receiver-General's office, - -	63,679	8	3¼	106,132	7	1¾
	£ 118,569	4	7¼	£ 197,615	7	4¾

Yearly value of Quit-rents charged on the lands contained in the foregoing account.

	Acres.		Sterling.		
On	45,951	after the proportion of two beaver ſkins for 60,000 acres, valued at ſix ſhillings ſterling each ſkin, - - - -	£ 0	9	2¼
On	5,000	after the proportion of one beaver ſkin for 12,000 acres, valued at do.	0	2	6
On	121,760	at one ſhilling ſterling per thouſand, - - -	6	1	9
On	687,790	at one ſhilling ſterling per hundred, - - -	343	17	10¾
On	25,000	at one ſhilling ſterling per thouſand, - - -	2	15	0
On	30,000				
On	28,003½	at one ſhilling ſterling per hundred, - - -	14	0	0¼
On	126,101	at ditto ditto, - - - -	63	1	0
On	1,385,219¾	at one half-penny ſterling per acre, - - - -	2,885	17	5¾
On	34,254½	at one penny ſterling per acre, - - -	142	14	6½
On	239,932½	at ditto ditto, - - - -	999	14	4½
On	1,346,004½	at ditto ditto, - - - - -	5,608	7	0½
On	37,037½	at a buſhel of wheat per cent. is 370⅓ buſhels wheat, valued at three ſhillings ſterling per buſhel, - - - -	55	11	0
On	9,087½	at one penny ſterling per acre, - - - -	37	17	3½
On	4,571¼	at four ſhilling ſterling per cent. - - - -	9	2	10¼
On	7,261¾	at various quit-rents, amounting to - - -	17	2	8
On	39,250	at ditto, - - - - - -	9	12	6
On	7,000	after the proportion of one beaver ſkin for 12,000 acres, valued at ſix ſhillings ſterling each ſkin, - - - -	0	3	6
On	10,000	at an Indian corn, - - - - -	0	0	0
On	10,000	at a red roſe for each 10,000 acres per annum, - -	0	0	0
On	10,000				
On	10,000				
On	10,000				
On	5,000	at one ſhilling ſterling per hundred acres, - - -	7	10	0
On	5,000				
On	5,000				
			£ 10,204	0	7¼

Eſtimate of the value of certain articles of property which belonged to the Hon. John Penn, *jun. and the Hon.* John Penn, *ſen. in the year* 1779.

	Sterling.		
Land in Pennſylvania, amounting to 21,592,127 acres 4 perches, for which no purchaſe money had been paid, and which, if eſtimated at ten pounds ſterling per hundred acres, viz, five pounds ſterling per hundred acres purchaſe money, and five pounds ſterling more, in lieu of one penny ſterling per acre per annum quit-rent, being the terms on which the proprietaries ſold their lands in the year 1776, will be £ 2,159,212 14 0 ſterling. And if eſtimated at ſix pounds ſterling, in lieu of ten pounds Pennſylvania currency per hundred acres without quit-rent, being the preſent terms of ſale by the ſtate, the amount will be £ 1,295,527 12 4¾ ſterling.			
Arrears of quit-rent as ſtated in the above account, - - -	118,569	4	7¼
Annual amount of quit-rents being £ 10,204 0 7¼ valued at twelve years purchaſe,	£ 122,448	7	3

Articles of uncertain value.

Government, - - - - - -	0	0	0
Eſcheated lands, - - - - - -	0	0	0
Three fifths of royal mines, - - - - -	0	0	0
One fifth of all other mines, - - - -	0	0	0

The foregoing account done at the requeſt of the Honorable John Penn, jun. and the Honorable John Penn, ſen. Eſquires.

Errors Excepted, by me

EDMUND PHYSICK.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Antoine Baſtide*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *October* 27th, on the petition of *James Young* and *Charles Buſſelot*.

A petition from *Abraham Lukens*, read in the late Houſe *March* 6th laſt, was preſented to the chair and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from the Invalid Corps doing duty in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating, that their preſent pay is inſufficient to diſcharge the amount of their clothing, and other expences neceſſarily incurred, and praying this Houſe to grant them an augmentation of their pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from the *American* Philoſophical Society held at *Philadelphia*, for promoting uſeful knowledge, was read, praying for a donation of lands, for the purpoſe of proſecuting the diſcoveries of the various productions of this extenſive continent, and to enable them to give premiums for ſuch diſcoveries as may appear uſeful; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

A petition from the truſtees of *Franklin* college, in the borough of *Lancaſter,* was read, ſetting forth, that the public ſtore in *Queen-ſtreet,* in the ſaid borough, is falling into decay, and that *William Hamilton,* Eſquire, the preſent proprietor of the ground, hath conſented to convey the ſame, with other lots, for the benefit of the aforeſaid inſtitution, in caſe the lots upon which the ſaid ſtores are erected ſhould be veſted in the ſaid truſtees; therefore praying the ſame ſtores, with the lots appurtenant thereto, may be veſted in them and their ſucceſſors, for the uſes of the ſaid corporation; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Richards,* to report thereon.

A repreſentation from the firſt election diſtrict in the county of *Bedford,* ſtating certain illegal practices in conducting the late general election for the county of *Bedford,* was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer and Comptroller-General do prepare and lay before the General Aſſembly, within three days after the commencement of the firſt ſeſſion in every year, ſtatements of the public accounts, made up to the firſt day of *October* preceding.

The committee appointed *October* 27th, on the petition of *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian congregation of the* Big-Spring, "*in* Newtown *townſhip, in* Cumberland *county,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Suſquehanna, *at the town* "*of* Sunbury, *in the county of* Northumberland, *and veſting the right in* "John Lyon, *his heirs and aſſigns,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the wages of members of the ſtate* "*Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed, and that it be the order of the day for to-morrow.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday,

Friday, November 9, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Wiley* was read, praying certificates of this ſtate, for ſervices by him done during the late war, may be received in diſcharge of his mortgage in the general loan-office; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

A petition from *John Wilſon* and *Richard Swan,* Executors of the laſt will and teſtament of *William Swan,* late of *Paxton* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, ſetting forth, that there is due to this ſtate a balance of *two hundred and eighteen pounds eight ſhillings and eight-pence,* on account of money by him collected in the payment of taxes, and praying that certificates for money loaned to this ſtate may be received in payment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A memorial from the Board of Managers and the Manufacturing Committee of the Society for the encouragement of manufactures and the uſeful arts in this ſtate was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of inflicting by law ſevere and heavy penalties on thoſe who ſeduce an artiſt to emigrate into a foreign country, or who export the implements and machines for the better carrying on manufactures, of which they are poſſeſſed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr *Kennedy,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for electing Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

A return of an election held in the county of *Berks* of a repreſentative, to ſerve in General Aſſembly in the room of *Charles Biddle,* Eſquire, was preſented to the chair, and read, whereby it appeared that *Philip Kremer,* Eſquire, was duly elected, who appearing at the table, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 25th, to report a ſett of rules and regulations for the government of this Houſe, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the depreciation of the paper currency, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to authoriſe the truſtees of the general loan-office to receive the whole, or any part, of the monies loaned by them in virtue of the act for erecting and opening a loan-office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds*, enacted the fourth day of *April*, 1785, at any period previous to the time on which it is payable, and to alter ſo much of the ſaid act as directs them to re-lend the quotas paid in by the borrowers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the relinquiſhment of the ſhare of the forfeiture, paſſed to the ſtate by the condemnation of the ſhip *Anna*, to *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, late owners of the ſaid ſhip.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Piper*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,

YEAS.

17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Samuel Maclay*,
26 *John White*,
27 *John Irvine*,
28 *Robert Lollar*,
29 *Peter Richards*,
30 *John Carſon*,
31 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *James Clemſon*,
2 *John Hopkins*,
3 *William Mitchell*,
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *Thomas Clingan*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Thomas Kennedy*,
9 *John Oliver*,
10 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
11 *Philip Kreemer*,
12 *David Davis*,
13 *Joſeph Sands*,

NAYS.

14 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,
16 *John Piper*,
17 *William Findley*,
18 *James Barr*,
19 *John M'Dowell*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *James M'Lene*,
26 *James M'Calmont*,

NAYS.

27 *Jacob Reiſſ*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Jacob Miley*,

NAYS.

30 *Robert Clark*,
31 *Hugh Davidſon*.

And the votes being equal, Mr. Speaker gave his caſting vote in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*”—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill, veſting in the Supreme Executive Council a power to mitigate or reſtore, if they deem proper, any forfeitures which may hereafter accrue to the ſtate, in conſequence of offences againſt the laws for the regulation of trade.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Calmont*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,

YEAS.

16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *David M‘Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Samuel Maclay*,
26 *John White*,
27 *Robert Lollar*,
28 *Peter Richards*,
29 *John Carſon*,
30 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *James Clemſon*,
2 *John Hopkins*,
3 *William Mitchell*,
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *Thomas Clingan*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Thomas Kennedy*,
9 *John Oliver*,
10 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
11 *Philip Kremer*,
12 *David Davis*,
13 *Joſeph Sands*,
14 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,

NAYS.

16 *John Piper*,
17 *William Findley*,
18 *James Barr*,
19 *John Irvine*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *James M‘Lene*,
26 *James M‘Calmont*,
27 *Jacob Reiſſ*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Robert Clark*,
30 *Hugh Davidſon*.

And the votes being equal, Mr. Speaker gave his caſting vote in the affirmative.

The Houſe then adopted the report, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, late owners of the ſhip *Anna*, forfeited to the ſtate, as ſet forth in their memorial, beg leave to report——

That the caſe of the ſaid late owners appears ſingularly hard, as the offence, in conſequence whereof the forfeiture accrued, was committed, as appears by the certificate of the court before whom the trial was had, without their participation or knowledge.

That although it may be politically expedient to conſider owners *generaly* reſponſible in point of property, for the conduct of thoſe they employ in their veſſels, yet in this caſe we conceive an exception ought to be made, as the ſhip was beyond ſea when the law, by the breach whereof ſhe became forfeited, was paſſed, and of courſe they could have no notice of it, ſo as to take cautionary meaſures for ſecuring themſelves againſt the miſconduct of the officers and mariners entruſted with the veſſel.

That all undue exerciſes of ſeverity in government are impolitic, as they defeat the purpoſes intended by them, and it is well known that ſmuggling in other countries has frequently encreaſed, in proportion to the ſeverity of trade laws: And in *England*, where theſe laws are extremely rigorous, powers of mitigation are lodged in a board of commiſſioners, who make the neceſſary diſcriminations on the ſubject.

That we do not perceive any power of reſtoring the forfeiture, either in the whole or in part, exiſts in any executive branch of government in *Pennſylvania:* And though fully ſenſible of the propriety of diſcouraging breaches of our trade laws, yet we are convinced that diſcriminations will be found proper on many occaſions. The Supreme Executive Council have a power, by the 20th ſection of the frame of government, to *remit fines* and grant pardons in all caſes, but thoſe of impeachments; yet it does not give them the right of interfering in caſes of *forfeiture:* A *fine* being a pecuniary commutation for a corporal puniſhment, and a *forfeiture* a reſumption of property loſt to the individual by breaches of the municipal laws of ſociety, and which has, *in conſequence* of ſuch breaches, become foriſfact or forfeited, *i. e.* paſſed from the owner to the community. In the former caſe the Council have a right to remit, as they have to pardon the corporal puniſhment. But the right of reveſting property forfeited remains with the people, being a branch of ſovereignty not delegated to the Supreme Executive. Former legiſlatures have been ſenſible of this, and acted accordingly, as the Houſe may perceive by referring to the caſes of *Reynold Keene*, 1ſt vol. of laws, 159, 224; *Henry Hugh Ferguſon*, 446; the eſtate of *N. Vernon*, 225; *John Spering*, vol. 2, chap. 43; and in the caſe of the tumult in *Walnut-ſtreet*, *Philadelphia*, the Houſe have interfered in pardoning where fines might have been impoſed, becauſe, as is recited with much juſtice and propriety in the bill on that ſubject, vol. 1, chap. 158, "the rigorous proſecution of juſtice in all caſes is not expedient."

In the caſe referred to us we therefore beg leave to recommend to the Houſe the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the relinquiſhment of the ſhare of the forfeiture, paſſed to the ſtate by the condemnation of the ſhip *Anna*, to *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, late owners of the ſaid ſhip.

And that there may be a permanent power in the Executive, competent to conſider of and redreſs caſes of the like nature, ſuperceding the neceſſity of further interferences of the legiſlature, we beg leave further to report, that it be

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill, veſting in the Supreme Executive Council a power to mitigate or reſtore, if they deem proper, any forfeiture or forfeitures which may hereafter accrue to the ſtate, in conſequence of offences againſt the laws for the regulation of trade.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in bills conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the wages of the members of the* "*State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of troops required by* "*Congreſs for the protection of the weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 10, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the freemen, inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Franklin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon*, read in the late Houſe *March* 12th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read in the late Houſe *March* 3d laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts reported in part, that they have burnt and deſtroyed bills of credit of the emiſſion of *March* 16th, 1785, to the amount of *eleven thouſand four hundred and fifty pounds.*

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas it appears to this Houſe, by the complaint of divers of the members, ſupported by the affidavits of the Honorable *John Beard*, Eſquire, and Major *Alexander Boyd*, that on the night of *Tueſday*, the ſixth day of *November* inſtant, about midnight, a number of perſons unknown committed a violent riot and moſt outrageous aſſault upon the dwelling-houſe of the ſaid *Alexander Boyd*, in which three of the members of the Honorable Supreme

Executive Council and four of the members of this Houſe lodged, and were then abed and aſleep (until awaked by the ſaid rioters;) at the ſame time throwing out the moſt indecent and violent threats and abuſe towards the ſaid members, to the great contempt of this government, and eſpecially of the ſaid Supreme Executive Council and of this Houſe: Therefore

Reſolved, That the ſaid affidavits be tranſmitted to his Excellency the Preſident in Council, and that it be recommended to his Excellency and the Honorable members of the Supreme Executive Council to offer a reward, by proclamation, of *pounds* for the diſcovery of the perpetrators of the ſaid outrage and contempt, ſo that they may be brought to puniſhment, or of *pounds* for the diſcovery of any one of them, and that this Houſe will provide for the payment of the ſaid rewards; and that it be alſo recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to direct the Attorney-General to proſecute the ſaid rioters, and every of them, when diſcovered.

It was then moved by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

That the ſame be referred to a committee, to report thereon.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *M'Calmont,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Willing,*

YEAS.

18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Jacob Erb,*
23 *John Hopkins,*
24 *William Mitchell,*
25 *David M'Clellan,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Joſeph Reed,*
28 *Thomas Clingan,*
29 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
30 *Samuel Maclay,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon,*
33 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *John Chapman,*
2 *James Clemſon,*
3 *David Mitchell,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *John Oliver,*
7 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
8 *David Davis,*
9 *Joſeph Sands,*
10 *Philip Kreemer,*

NAYS.

11 *Peter Burkhalter,*
12 *John Piper,*
13 *John White,*
14 *William Findley,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *John Irvine,*
17 *John M'Dowell,*
18 *James Alliſon,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Flenniken,*

NAYS.

21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James M'Lene,*
24 *James M'Calmont,*
25 *Robert Lollar,*

NAYS.

26 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *Jacob Miley,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Whereupon, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *G. Heiſter,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, appointed to report certain rules and regulations for the government of this Houſe, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the former year be adopted for the government of the Houſe during the preſent year. They are as follow, *viz.*

I. WHEN the Speaker aſſumes the Chair, the members ſhall take their ſeats.

II. At the opening of the Houſe each day, the minutes of the preceding day ſhall be read, and are then in the power of the Houſe to be corrected; after which any buſineſs addreſſed to the Chair may be proceeded to.

III. Every member preſenting a paper to the Chair, ſhall firſt ſtate its general purport.

IV. Every petition, memorial, letter, or other matter of the like kind, read in the Houſe, ſhall be deemed as lying on the table for further conſideration, unleſs any ſpecial order be moved therein.

V. A motion made and ſeconded, ſhall be repeated by the Speaker. A motion ſhall be reduced to writing, if the Speaker or any two members require it. A motion may be withdrawn by the member making it, before any deciſion is had on it.

VI. No buſineſs, regularly before the Houſe, ſhall be interrupted, but by motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement, commitment, or amendment.

VII. The motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement or re-commitment, ſhall preclude amendment, and farther debate on the original ſubject; but the previous queſtion cannot be moved by leſs than four members.

VIII. A report laying over for conſideration, when called for, ſhall be read. If more than one be called for at the ſame moment, the Speaker may determine which to prefer. If the Speaker aſk the ſenſe of the Houſe, it ſhall be given without debate.

IX. The Speaker not to vote, unleſs the votes be equal without him.

X. No member ſpeaking ſhall be interrupted, but by a call to order by the Speaker, or by a member through the Speaker.

XI. No member to be referred to in debate by name.

XII. When debates prove tedious, four members riſing may requeſt the queſtion to be put. The Speaker ſhall then take the ſenſe of the Houſe.

XIII. The Speaker may, by direction of the Houſe, enjoin ſecrecy to the members.

XIV. The Speaker himſelf, or by requeſt, may call to order any member, who ſhall tranſgreſs the rules. If a ſecond time, the Speaker may refer to him by name. The Houſe may then examine and cenſure the member's conduct, he being allowed to extenuate or juſtify.

XV. The Speaker may decide on a queſtion of order. Two members may, however, appeal to the Houſe from his deciſion: Or the Speaker may in the firſt inſtance take the ſenſe of the Houſe.

XVI. Any member, on motion, and leave given, may read a bill in his place, and, with permiſſion of the Houſe, preſent it to the Chair. It ſhall then be proceeded on as if preſented by a committee.

XVII. On a firſt reading of any matter, except a motion made by a member, no debate ſhall be had, but on the queſtion,—*Shall it lie on the table?*

XVIII. The files of the Houſe may be inſpected by the members; but no paper taken away without the Speaker's leave.

XIX. Committees may be of four kinds, *viz.*——Special committees, to be nominated by the Speaker, unleſs otherwiſe ordered. A nomination by the Speaker may be objected to and conſidered.——Committees by ballot.——Grand committees, conſiſting of a member from the city and each county;——and Committees of the whole Houſe.

XX. Every member actually attending the ſeſſion ſhall be in his place at the time the Houſe ſtands adjourned to, or within half an hour thereof, on the penalty, if a quorum without him, of *two ſhillings and ſix-pence*, if not, of *five ſhillings*. A member having withdrawn, while the Houſe is ſitting, without leave, ſhall forfeit *five ſhillings*. Excuſes, however, may be admitted.

XXI. The name of him who makes, and the name of him who ſeconds a motion, ſhall be entered on the minutes.

XXII. No member ſhall ſpeak more than twice to a queſtion, without leave.

XXIII. Every member of a committee ſhall attend the committee, at the call of his chairman.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the petition of the Truſtees of *Franklin* College, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings*, to be paid to the ſaid *Alexander M'Dowell*, as a full compenſation for his ſervices.

Ordered, That Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *James Young*, *Charles Buſſelot*, *Thomas M'Intire* and *Antoine Baſtide*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of affording relief to the ſaid *Charles Buſſelot*, *James Young* and *Antoine Baſtide*, reſpectively, agreeably to the prayers in their reſpective petitions contained.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, for the purpoſe of extending to the ſaid *Thomas M'Intire* the benefit of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth made for the relief of inſolvent debtors.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, to bring in bills conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Treaſurer of this State for the enſuing year, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

The committee to whom was referred, this forenoon, the motion reſpecting the inſult offered to ſome members of this Houſe, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the motion made by Mr. *Kennedy*, reſpecting the inſult offered to ſome members of this Houſe, propoſe the following reſolution:——

Whereas complaint has been made to this Houſe by *James M‘Calmont*, *James M‘Lene*, *John Piper* and *William Findley*, Eſquires, members thereof, that on the night of *Tueſday*, the ſixth inſtant, the houſe of Major *Boyd*, of this city, in which they reſided, was riotouſly attacked by a number of perſons, to the ſaid members unknown, and themſelves abuſed and inſulted by reproachful language:

Reſolved, That ſuch outrageous proceeding is highly diſapproved of by this Houſe, and is a breach of the privilege of its members.

Reſolved, That this reſolution, together with the affidavits which the ſaid members have thought proper to produce on the ſubject, be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council, and that Council be requeſted to iſſue a proclamation, offering ſuch rewards as they may deem neceſſary for apprehending the perpetrators of the ſaid outrage, in order that they may be brought to puniſhment, and that this Houſe will provide for the payment of ſuch rewards.

It was then moved by Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kreemer*,

To add the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to direct the Attorney-General to proſecute the perpetrators of the outrage aforeſaid, and every of them, when diſcovered and apprehended.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Calmont*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Mitchell*,
2 *Joſeph Reed*,
3 *David Mitchell*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *John Oliver*,
7 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
8 *David Davis*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *Philip Kreemer*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Peter Burkhalter*,
13 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

14 *William Findley*,
15 *James Barr*,
16 *John M‘Dowell*,
17 *James Alliſon*,
18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *Theophilus Philips*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,
21 *James M‘Lene*,
22 *James M‘Calmont*,
23 *Robert Lollar*,
24 *Peter Richards*,
25 *Jacob Miley*,
26 *Robert Clark*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*

NAYS.

18 *Richard Willing,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Adam Hubley,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *James Clemſon,*
24 *Jacob Erb,*
25 *John Hopkins,*
26 *David M'Clellan,*
27 *Samuel Maclay,*
28 *John White,*
29 *John Irvine,*
30 *Alexander Wright,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon,*
33 *John Paul Schott,*
34 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative, and the report adopted.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to provide for the wages of the members of the State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame.*

An ACT *for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection of the weſtern frontiers, and other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Clingan* be a committee, to affix the ſeal to the laws which have or may be enacted by this Houſe.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 12, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and remonſtrance from ſeveral owners of land at and near *Wyoming* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and praying that an adequate compenſation may be given them for the lands which may be awarded to the *Connecticut Claimants*, by impartial and diſintereſted perſons, and that the payments be made by yearly inſtallments; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with all the papers on the files of the late and preſent Houſe of Aſſembly relative to the ſame ſubject, to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Kennedy*, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of this commonwealth was read, praying the price of the unlocated lands in the back parts of this ſtate may be reduced.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Conrad Latour* was read, ſtating his ſervices in the late army of the United States, for which he has not been compenſated, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others.

The petition of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read *November* 10th, and the petition of *John Robinſon*, read *November* 7th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Daviſon* and Mr. *Irwine*, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom were referred the papers relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, made a further report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That from the firſt day of *March* next, until the firſt day of *September* thereafter, the commiſſioners appointed under the act for confirming the *Connecticut* claims in the county of *Luzerne* do receive all ſuch claims for lands within the ſaid county, coming under the deſcriptions in the act as admiſſible, and which may not have been preſented to them before the expiration of the term now limited for that purpoſe; and that a committee be appointed accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *November* 3d, relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to oblige the free male inhabitants of the ſaid county to give freſh aſſurances of their allegiance to this ſtate, and make and ſubſcribe a declaration, in which they ſhall acknowledge the right of this ſtate to extend its juriſdiction over the county of *Luzerne*, and renounce all claim to lands within the ſaid county under *Connecticut* or the *Suſquehanna* company, excepting what is intended to be confirmed to the *Connecticut Claimants* by the law for that purpoſe enacted, and in which alſo they ſhall engage to aid the officers of the county in the full execution of the law.

Ordered, That the laſt named committee bring in a bill accordingly.

The chairman of the committee on ways and means preſented to the chair a ſtate of the finances of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, as ſtated by the Comptroller-General, *viz.*

A STATE *of the* FINANCES *of the* COMMONWEALTH *of* *PENNSYLVANIA.*

I. *Of the Accounts of the United States.*

THE Congreſs of the United States, in November 1777, and at ſundry ſubſequent periods, called upon the reſpective ſtates in the union to furniſh, for the purpoſe of carrying on the war, continental money and proviſions, commonly called ſpecific ſupplies, and under theſe requiſitions various payments were made and articles of proviſions furniſhed by this ſtate; but, by an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, theſe requiſitions have been done away, and the payments and ſupplies furniſhed under them are to be carried to the credit of the reſpective ſtates by whom they were furniſhed, in their account current with the United States.

By an ordinance of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled of the 7th May, 1787, proviſion is made for examining, adjuſting, and finally liquidating the accounts current between the reſpective ſtates and the United States, whereby that great ſource of oppoſition from the ſeveral ſtates to furniſh the payments requeſted of them for the current ſupport of the federal government and the diſcharge of the debts of the union, upon the ſuppoſition by each that large balances are due to them upon theſe accounts by the United States, will be removed, and thoſe ſtates who really have ſuch balances obtain the credit to which they are juſtly entitled. The accounts of the ſtate of Pennſylvania with the United States, which are to be ſettled agreeable to the aforeſaid ordinance, are nomerous and great. I have made conſiderable progreſs in ſtating and preparing them for ſettlement; and from the abilities of the gentleman appointed to receive and examine them, and his attention to that buſineſs, having ſome time ſince entered thereon, there is a happy proſpect of their being compleated in as ſhort a time as the nature of ſo voluminous a work, rendered ſtill more perplexing by the progreſſive depreciation of the currency, will admit.

By act of Congreſs of 18th March, 1780, the ſum of 195000000 dollars was called for from the ſeveral ſtates, for the purpoſe of ſinking the continental bills of credit emitted by Congreſs, payable in the ſaid bills; and as the juſt proportion of the ſeveral ſtates could not be aſcertained, and one of the ſtates (Georgia) on account of the invaſion of the enemy, was exempted by Congreſs from advancing any part thereof at that time, the quota of Pennſylvania therein was ſet at one ſixth and fifty-five hundredths of the whole; and it was declared, that when the relative value of the ſeveral ſtates ſhould be aſcertained, thoſe ſtates who ſhould have paid more than their juſt proportion of this tax ſhould he allowed a credit for the ſame, with intereſt at 6 per cent. from the time of payment; and where any ſtate had paid leſs than its juſt proportion, ſuch deficiency ſhould be charged thereto, with intereſt thereon in like manner.

The quota of Pennſylvania in ſaid requiſition, as aforeſaid, is -	*Dol.* 29900000
And at ſundry times the Treaſurer of this ſtate hath paid to the Continental Loan-Officer the full amount. - - - -	*Dol.* 29900000

There are alſo ſundry calls made by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled upon the ſeveral ſtates, for monies for the ſupport of the national government, and for defraying their debts and expences, per acts of Congreſs of 30th October 1781 and 27th April 1784, 10th September 1782, 27th September 1785, 2d Auguſt 1786, and 11th October 1787, in which, ſeverally, as the relative value of the ſeveral ſtates hath not been aſcertained, in order to apportion the quotas upon ſaid ſtates agreeable to the Articles of Confederation, proviſion is made, that when an apportionment thereof can be made, ſuch ſtates as ſhall have paid more than their juſt proportion ſhall be allowed credit therefor, with intereſt from the time of payment, and ſuch ſtates as ſhall have paid leſs ſhall be charged with ſuch deficiency, and the intereſt thereon, from the time payment was required. Theſe are called *the exiſting requiſitions,* and the quota of Pennſylvania as aforeſaid therein is as follows, *viz.*

	Payable in facilities or indents.	*To be paid in Specie.*
	Dollars.	*Dollars.*
In the requiſitions of October 1781 and April 1784, for four millions of dollars, being one ſeventh and thirteen hundredths of the whole ſum required, -	53441	506956
Note. On this requiſition, as the acts of Congreſs have been conſtrued, the relative proportion of Pennſylvania to be paid in ſpecie hath been greater than any other ſtate. When the quotas come to be adjuſted according to the confederation, juſtice will herein be done.		
In the requiſition of September 10th 1782, for 1200000 dollars, being one ſixth and ſixty-ſix hundredths of the whole ſum required, - -	180000	
In the requiſition of 27th September 1785, for three millions of dollars, being one ſeventh and thirty-one hundredths of the whole ſum required, -	273585$\frac{30}{90}$	136792$\frac{60}{90}$
	507026$\frac{30}{90}$	643748$\frac{60}{90}$

On the 27th July 1786, theſe accounts were adjuſted by the United States, and there appeared then to be paid on account thereof, - -	434265$\frac{70}{90}$	580302$\frac{64}{90}$
Leaving a balance then due, of - - - -	72760$\frac{50}{90}$	63445$\frac{86}{90}$
	507026$\frac{30}{90}$	643748$\frac{60}{90}$

	Facilities.	*Specie.*
Balance due as above, - - - -	72760$\frac{50}{90}$	63445$\frac{86}{90}$
In the requiſition of Auguſt 2d 1786, for three millions of dollars, being one ſeventh and thirty-one hundredths of the whole ſum required, -	219765	296908
In the requiſition of 11th October 1787, for 1700407 dollars, being one ſeventh and thirty-one hundredths of the whole amount required to be paid into the treaſury before the 1ſt July 1788, - -	232616	
	525141$\frac{50}{90}$	360353$\frac{86}{90}$

On account of the above there hath, ſince the ſettlement in July 1786, been paid to the receiver of continental taxes till 1ſt October 1787, -	166444$\frac{83}{90}$	62941$\frac{58}{90}$
Paid to penſioners, in diſcharge thereof, - - -		42334$\frac{60}{90}$
Balance due by Pennſylvania, upon her quotas of the exiſting requiſitions,	358696$\frac{52}{90}$	254100$\frac{5}{90}$
	525141$\frac{50}{90}$	360353$\frac{86}{90}$

In which requiſitions proviſion is made for the intereſt of the foreign debt, and ſuch of the principal as may become due, till the end of the year 1788, for the intereſt of the domeſtic debt till the beginning of the preſent year, and for the ſupport and expences of the federal government until the 1ſt July 1788.

The certificates which have been received on loan by this ſtate according to the funding ſyſtem, and upon which the intereſt can be had from the United States in indents till 1ſt January 1787, will enable Pennſylvania to diſcharge this year's requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled without any tax or burthen on the people, and will be more than ſufficient to diſcharge the whole balance in indents from the ſame to the United States, upon the exiſting requiſitions.

Of the above balance of 254100 and 5-90ths dollars yet due on the exiſting requiſitions, and which muſt be paid in ſpecie, about 10000 dollars will, by the 1ſt July next, be diſcharged in the payment of penſions on account thereof, according to act of Congreſs of the 7th June 1785; and 20000 dollars more thereof will be paid within ſix months, towards a contract for ſupplying the troops of the United States ſtationed on the frontiers with cloathing.

II. *Of the Support of Government.*

To pay the officers of government annually will require, on an average, about		£ 27950 0 0
And to ſupport the incidental expences of government, ſuch as printing the laws, bills, minutes, &c. of the General Aſſembly, and the other printing for the ſtate, firewood, candles, ſtationary, rewards by proclamations, attornies fees in cauſes of the ſtate, expences of the judges of the ſupreme court and attendants when on the circuit (excluſive of their expences borne by the counties where they hold courts) and for attending the ſtate-houſe clock, and ſuch like expences, about - -		5450 0 0
There will be ſundry expences incurred in the courſe of the next year for further improving the navigation of the river Delaware, and preparing more piers for ſecuring the ſhipping from ice in the river during the winter months, about	1200 0 0	
The oyl annually neceſſary for the light-houſe at Cape-Henlopen, the cotton wick, the wages of the keeper, and incidental expences thereof, and of the buoys, beacons, and piers in the river, -	773 0 0	
The wages and proviſions of the captain and men of the ſtate ſloop Delaware, in the employ of the ſtate, under the direction of the wardens of the port, and incidental repairs thereof, - -	371 0 0	
		2344 0 0
The expences of improving the navigation of the river Schuylkill, and improving the roads leading from Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, being the neat proceeds of the four claſſes of the Pennſylvania State Lottery, appropriated for that purpoſe per act of 15th March 1784, - - - -		1681 7 3
Of the £ 2000 granted per act of 21ſt September 1785, for laying out and repairing the highways from the weſtern parts of Cumberland county to Pittſburgh, there may be neceſſary in the next year, - - - - -		600 0 0
Of the £ 300 granted per act of 23d March 1786, for viewing and opening a road from the Lehigh water gap, in Northampton county, to Wyoming, - -		200 0 0
The incidental expences of the Hoſpital on State-Iſland, provided for the reception of ſuch paſſengers who may be imported into this ſtate as have infectious diſeaſes, -		90 0 0
The reſidue of the expences of opening and repairing the road from Conrad Minick's to Sunbury, per reſolution of 22d March 1784, - - -		450 0 0
Note. Part of this road, from Conrad Minick's till the line of Berks county, is to be opened per act of March 29th 1787, and the £ 200 therein granted hath been paid for that purpoſe.		
By an act of March 29th 1787, £ 500 are granted for the purpoſe of opening and eſtabliſhing a road between the navigable waters of the Franks-town branch of Juniata and the river Conemaugh, of which may be neceſſary in the next year, -		200 0 0
Balance of expences for running and marking the northern boundary of Pennſylvania,		500 0 0
		£ 39465 7 3

III. *Of the Debts due by the Commonwealth to individuals.*

I. The certificates which have been granted by this ſtate, agreeable to acts of March 1ſt 1786 and 28th March 1787, for loan-office and other liquidated certificates of the United States of debts due by the United States to citizens of Pennſylvania, counting the nominal ſum of ſuch loan-office certificates as are dated between 1ſt September 1777 and 1ſt March 1778, amount to -	£ 1900873 2 4	
The loan will remain open, agreeable to the aforeſaid act of March 1ſt 1786, until the laſt day of February 1788, incluſive, within which time, from the beſt eſtimate I can form, there will further be loaned in like manner about - -	30000 0 0	
		1930873 2 4
Of the above there hath been redeemed by the ſales of city lots, excluſive of the intereſt of ſaid certificates, - -	37326 6 1	
Ditto by the land-office, for lands granted in the old and new purchaſe, and for arrears of principal and intereſt of the purchaſe-money of lands granted by the late proprietaries, &c. excluſive of the intereſt of ſaid certificates, - -	19379 3 11	
		56705 10 0
Carried over,		£ 56705 10 0

Brought over,				£ 56705	10	0
Balance of certificates to be redeemed by the 1ſt March 1796, which is gradually diminiſhing by the funds in operation for redemption thereof, and which at the time of payment of the principal will be reduced about £ 63400, for the depreciation on loan-office certificates loaned as aforeſaid between Sept. 1777 and March 1778,				1874167	12	4
				1930873	2	4
II. There are arrears of intereſt from different periods due upon the ſaid certificates, which are made payable at the treaſury out of the arrears of taxes, ſo ſoon as there ſhall be ſufficient to pay one year's intereſt. The amount of the ſaid arrears upon the above balance of £ 1874167 12 4, is about - - -				229200	0	0
The ſaid arrears are alſo redeemed with the principal of the certificates upon which the ſame are due, and by this means may be computed will be ſunk, - - -				80000	0	0
Balance to be paid in caſh, -				149200	0	0
III. The ſaid balance of £1874167 12 4 is alſo upon an accruing intereſt, which is payable half yearly, the annual amount of which is, - - -				112450	1	1
There was alſo an half year's intereſt payable thereupon on the 1ſt October 1787, and which is not yet diſcharged, - - - - - -				56225	0	6
And 2½ years intereſt upon the part not yet loaned, payable when applied for, -				3600	0	0
				172275	1	7
Taking into view the payments that will be made in theſe certificates for city lots, for arrearages of principal and intereſt of purchaſe money of lands located or warranted before December 1776, for lands to be ſold within the old and late purchaſe, &c. &c. and alſo the times of payment of the above intereſt, there muſt of the above be redeemed in that way, ſo as to relieve the treaſury from payment of	8800	0	0			
Balance to be paid in caſh, as above, -	163475	1	7			
				172275	1	7
IV. Certificates, bearing an intereſt of 6 per cent. per annum, were by acts of April 1ſt 1784, and March 30th 1785, made iſſuable for all legal claims and debts due by the ſtate (the depreciation debt of the late army excepted) the amount whereof iſſued is, - - - - - -	1688621	19	11			
And there is yet to be iſſued, - - - - -	58200	7	10			
				226822	7	9
There hath been redeemed of the above, by the ſales of city lots,	504	3	3			
Ditto by the land-office, &c. - - - - -	22050	1	11			
				22554	5	2
Balance to be redeemed, which is daily diminiſhing by the funds in operation for ſinking the ſame, - - - - - - - -				204268	2	7
				226822	7	9
V. There is an accruing intereſt upon the above certificates, which is payable half yearly at the treaſury. Annual amount of intereſt -	12256	1	8			
One half year, due 1ſt July 1787, is yet unpaid, - -	6128	0	10			
There are four years arrears which is alſo payable on certificates not yet applied for, - - - - - -	13968	0	0			
				32352	2	6
Taking into view the payments that will be made in theſe certificates, and thereby redeemed before the foregoing intereſt is diſcharged, the treaſury will be relieved from the payment of the above intereſt, by the ſame being allowed to the poſſeſſors in their payments, ſay to amount of - - - - -	650	0	0			
Balance to be paid in caſh, -	31702	2	6			
				32352	2	6
VI. By acts of the 18th December 1780, April 10th 1781, October 1ſt 1781, April 13th 1782, April 8th 1785, September 22d 1785, and 8th March 1786, the depreciation of the pay of the Pennſylvana line, ſtate navy and military hoſpital, from the 1ſt January 1777 till 1ſt Auguſt 1780, hath been directed to be ſettled, and certificates iſſued, bearing intereſt from the 10th April 1781. Amount -				627585	11	4

Of

Of the above there hath been diſcharged, by payments of one third thereof in bills of April 1781,	£ 143060 3 10	
By the ſales of forfeited eſtates there hath been redeemed of principal, excluſive of intereſt,	51600 8 11	
By ſales of lots in the depreciation diſtrict, per act of 12th March 1783, there hath been redeemed as aforeſaid,	23240 16 9	
By the ſales of city lots, per act 8th April 1786, there hath been redeemed as aforeſaid,	25961 3 1	
By the land-office, for land within the old and late Indian purchaſe, per acts of April 1ſt 1784 and December 1784, there hath been paid in principal, excluſive of intereſt,	55204 17 11	
By act of 25th March 1786, there hath eſcheated to the commonwealth,	57540 0 0	
		356607 15 6
Balance yet unredeemed, which is daily leſſening by the payments to the land-office,		270977 15 10
		£627585 11 4

VII. Of the above balance of £ 270,977 15 10, there are certificates funded, upon which the intereſt is payable at the treaſury every ſix months, to the amount of £ 225504 4 11, agreeable to acts of 21ſt March and 20th September, 1783, 16th March 1785, and 1ſt of March 1786, the annual intereſt whereof is,	13530 5 1
VIII. By act of November 27th 1779, the ſum of £ 130000, ſterling money of Great-Britain, was granted to the late proprietors of Pennſylvania, equal in Pennſylvania currency to	216666 13 4

By the ſaid act, and by one other act of February 9th 1785, it was directed that the ſame ſhould be paid in annual inſtalments of £ 15000 ſterling, equal to £ 25000 Pennſylvania currency, and that the firſt inſtalment ſhould be payable on the 3d September 1784 (one year after the termination of the war with Great-Britain.)

And by act of the 28th March 1787, it was directed that intereſt ſhould be allowed and paid from the time the ſeveral inſtalments became payable, until they were or ſhould actually be diſcharged, and by the ſame act it was declared that a preference ſhould be given in payment of the ſaid debt.

On the 3d September 1787, four inſtalments were due	100000 0 0	
On the 3d September 1788, the fifth will become due	25000 0 0	
The intereſt due upon the ſaid inſtalments, per act of 1787 aforeſaid, about	7800 0 0	
		132800 0 0
Of the above there hath been diſcharged	21368 15 0	
Remains to be paid, which is now due and to become due in the year 1788,	111431 5 0	
		132800 0 0

There are ſeveral thouſand pounds due by the late proprietaries for provincial taxes before the revolution, and for the taxes upon their manors and private eſtates in the ſeveral counties ſince the revolution until the preſent time, to be oppoſed to the aforeſaid balance.

And in addition to the aforeſaid five inſtalments of	125000 0 0	
There remains to be diſcharged, which will be payable between the 3d September 1789 and 3d September 1792, a balance of	91666 13 4	
		216666 13 4
IX. In 1775 and 1776 bills of credit were emitted, per ſundry reſolutions of the Aſſembly of Pennſylvania, to amount of	200000 0 0	
According to act paſſed March 20th 1777, bills of credit were emitted to amount of	200000 0 0	
		400000 0 0
There hath been burnt and deſtroyed of the firſt denomination,	44936 16 6	
Ditto of the ſecond denomination,	54941 16 6	
Ditto of both denominations,	71272 5 5	
In the treaſury,	3150 0 0	
Balance, funded on the arrears of continental money taxes,	225699 1 7	
		400000 0 0
X. In virtue of an act of Aſſembly of 25th March 1780, bills of credit, dated 29th April 1780, were emitted, bearing an intereſt of five per cent. per annum,		100000 0 0

Of this there hath been burnt and deſtroyed, - -	98873 15 0	
There is now in the treaſury, ready to be burnt, -	288 5 0	
Balance, which the poſſeſſors were entitled ſince 1ſt June 1784 to have had paid them, with intereſt, but very few bills are now preſented, and the greater part of this, it is preſumed, will not be brought in,	838 0 0	
		£ 100000 0 0

XI. Bills of credit were emitted on the faith of this ſtate, per act of Aſſembly of June 1ſt 1780, in conformity with a reſolution of Congreſs of 18th March 1780, bearing intereſt at five per cent. per annum. Amount - - - - -		*Dollars.* 1495000
Of the ſaid bills there is now in the treaſury of Pennſylvania -	1370000	
Due by Thomas Smith, Eſquire, for a like ſum paid to the United States, in exchange therefor, in the year 1781, in bills of April 1781, -	78642	
Balance to be redeemed, which the poſſeſſors are entitled ſince 1ſt January laſt to have paid them, with the intereſt, - - -	46358	
		1495000

The bills of this emiſſion are not to be re-iſſued, and it would be well to have them counted and burnt; but before this can be done, an act of the legiſlature for the purpoſe will be neceſſary.

XII. Bills of credit to the amount of £ 500000 were ordered to be emitted per act paſſed 7th April 1781, of which there was ſtruck - - - -		486500 0 0
Of which there hath been burnt and deſtroyed - -	437474 9 9	
Now in the treaſury, - - - - -	6777 1 9	
Balance carried down, - - - - - -	42248 8 6	
		486500 0 0
Balance, per the foregoing account, -		42248 8 6
Yet due to ſundry perſons for certificates and balances, payable in this money, which will be iſſued, - - - - - - - -		7250 0 0
Amount to be redeemed, - -		£ 49498 8 6

XIII. Intereſt notes were iſſued per act of March 21ſt 1783, for paying the intereſt due to the public creditors, to amount of - - - -		*Dollars.* $166571\frac{45}{90}$
Of which there hath been burnt and deſtroyed, - -	162612	
Now in the treaſury, redeemed, - - - - -	$3160\frac{45}{90}$	
Balance, for which the poſſeſſors have been entitled to receive ſpecie at the treaſury ſince July 1784; few notes are now preſented, and it is preſumed moſt of this balance will never appear, - -	799	
		$166571\frac{45}{90}$

XIV. Bills of credit were emitted by act of the legiſlature of 16th March 1785, and by law made receivable in all the revenues and debts due to the commonwealth. Amounting to			£ 150000 0 0
Burnt and deſtroyed in the year 1786, in purſuance of ſaid act,		20000 0 0	
Now in the treaſury, to be burnt and deſtroyed,	15000 0 0		
Deficient to make up the ſum to be burnt this year,	5000 0 0		
		20000 0 0	
			40000 0 0
Balance in circulation, -			110000 0 0
			150000 0 0

	State Money	*Conti. Money.*
XV. Certificates were iſſued in the year 1780, per act of June 1ſt 1780 and a reſolution of the Council, for horſes and proviſions purchaſed for the uſe of the army of the United States by agents in the different counties. Amount - - -	32971 16 7	631361 11 3
Of which there hath been redeemed by taxes, - - -		471142 4 7
Paid from the treaſury, excluſive of intereſt, - -	30341 15 7	140857 19 2
Yet due, and now payable, with intereſt, in bills of April 1781, per reſolution of Aſſembly 8th April 1782, - - -	2630 1 0	19361 7 6
Note. The continental money is payable at 60 for one.		
	£ 32971 16 7	£ 631361 11 3

XVI. By act of Aſſembly of 22d September 1785, proviſion is made for the ſupport and relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who were wounded or diſabled in the ſervice of the United States in the late war, agreeably to act of Congreſs of the 7th of June 1785, which admits the payments under this act to paſs to the credit of our account with the United States in the current requiſitions. Annual amount admitted, - £ 5530 17 0

XVII. By acts of March 1ſt 1780 and October 1ſt 1781, the widows of commiſſioned officers of the Pennſylvania line, ſtate regiments, flying camp and ſtate navy, who were killed or died in the ſervice during the late war, are entitled, during their widowhood, and their children till they attain the age of fourteen years, to the half pay of ſuch officer; and by act of March 20th 1780, the widows and families of ſuch officers and privates in the militia as were killed or died of wounds received in battle while in actual ſervice, are entitled to ſuch ſupport as the orphans court may direct, not exceeding the half pay of the perſon ſo killed. Annual amount, - - 2497 10 0

IV. *Of the Revenues of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania.*

I. The balance, which on a final adjuſtment with the United States may be found due to Pennſylvania on the unſettled accounts.

II. By acts of April and December 1784, certificates of debts of the United States, due to citizens of Pennſylvania and to the Pennſylvania line, were made receivable for lands therein mentioned. Received - - - 774773 1/90

May yet be redeemed, eſtimating the balance of alienated or unfunded certificates of this ſtate's citizens now out, - - - 272600

		Dollars.
		1047373 61/90
The certificates of debts due by the United States received on loan by this ſtate, per act of March 1ſt 1786, and yet to be loaned as aforeſaid, - - -		5148994 88/90
Amount of the principal of the certificates, the property of the ſtate of Pennſylvania, including the certificates for monies loaned to the United States from September 1777 till March 1778, at their nominal value, - - - -		6196368 59/90

III. The arrears of intereſt upon the aforeſaid certificates may, according to act of Congreſs of 11th October 1787, be drawn in indents till the 1ſt of January 1787. Amount whereof, excluſive of what hath been drawn, - - - 993000

IV. According to act of Congreſs, and the tenor of the certificates compoſing the aforeſaid ſum of 6196368 and 59-90ths dollars, an intereſt annually will accrue upon the ſame, payable from the United States to the ſtate of Pennſylvania in ſpecie, - 371782 10/90

V. There are arrears due from ſeveral counties of their quotas of taxes laid in continental money, and payable therein, or in reſolve and commonwealth money, viz.

	£								
Bucks county,	86093	11	2						
Cheſter, -	130887	8	7						
York, -	115731	1	2						
Cumberland, -	303043	2	4						
Berks, -	32968	1	1						
Northampton, -	45616	17	8						
Bedford, -	433792	8	11						
Northumberland,	438262	16	0						
Weſtmoreland, -	586063	0	6						
				2172458	7	5			
From this ſum deduct the abatements and exonerations by law allowed the frontier counties, - - - -				690000	0	0			
Amount to be brought into the treaſury, - -							1482458	7	5

VI. Arrearages of taxes are alſo due, payable in bills of the emiſſion of April 1781, viz.

	£								
Bucks county,	1994	9	9						
Cheſter, -	2230	6	3						
Lancaſter, -	307	8	11						
York, -	9494	6	11½						
Cumberland, -	17911	16	3						
Bedford, -	7365	13	8½						
Northumberland, -	9750	14	3						
Weſtmoreland, -	12144	2	10						
				61198	18	11			
Allow for exonerations to the frontier counties, - -				26000	0	0			
Amount to brought into the treaſury, - -							35198	18	11

VII. Arrearages of taxes are alſo due, which are to be paid in ſpecie, or in bills of the new emiſſion, viz.

	£	s	d
Philadelphia city and county,	£ 53086	0	5
Bucks,	9201	19	1
Cheſter,	26555	8	4
Lancaſter,	51951	14	6½
York,	36481	17	11
Cumberland,	50069	14	2½
Berks,	33991	17	0
Northampton,	8752	1	7
Bedford,	14766	13	2½
Northumberland,	25369	11	7½
Weſtmoreland,	15433	7	4½
Waſhington,	9986	8	10
Fayette,	389	6	9
Franklin,	5569	2	0
Montgomery,	8366	16	9
Dauphin,	4687	11	1½

	354659 10 9	
Abatements and exonerations allowed by law in the frontiers, on account of the depredations of the ſavages during the war,	30000 0 0	
Amount to be brought into the treaſury,		324659 10 9
VIII. The annual tax upon property, per act of 16th March 1785,		£ 76945 17 6

If the collectors were authoriſed themſelves to diſtrain for the taxes raiſed per the ſaid act of March 16th 1785, in the ſame manner as was uſual in the caſe of former taxes, it would ſimplify and ſhorten the buſineſs much. The coſts for iſſuing and ſerving the warrants of the juſtice, in many caſes, amounts to as much as the tax itſelf. It is often difficult to get the magiſtrates to do their duty. Sometimes they get the money into their own hands, from whence it is difficult to get it. In many caſes it is dangerous to entruſt conſtables with ſo many warrants as are neceſſary to be iſſued, and money will be loſt in this way.

The collectors both of the paſt and current taxes are accountable to the county treaſurer for the taxes they receive in no more ſummary way than in the caſe of private debts between individuals, and where collectors have been ſued, nine months have elapſed before judgment againſt them could be obtained, all which time the ſtate lies out of the money. I conceive it would be uſeful to eſtabliſh a more expeditious mode of recovering the money from delinquent collectors.

IX. The neat proceeds of the four claſſes of the Pennſylvania ſtate lottery. This is appropriated ſpecially by the act for erecting the ſaid lottery, paſſed the 15th March 1784,		£ 1681 7 3
X. The head money for paſſengers entering the port of Philadelphia, collected by the health officer, as a fund for ſupporting and keeping in repair the hoſpital on State-Iſland, for the reception of ſuch as have infectious diſeaſes, annually,		100 0 0
XI. The tonnage upon ſhipping, received by the tonnage officer, annually,		2450 0 0
XII. The balances due from the counties in the provincial taxes, from the 12th till the 19th eighteen-penny taxes incluſive, and including the arrears due from the late proprietaries in ſaid taxes,		5600 0 0
XIII. Arrearages unpaid of the tax of five ſhillings per pound, payable in ſtate money of April 1781, per reſolution of September 21ſt 1782,		4500 0 0
XIV. The arrears of fines in the firſt claſs tax, payable in ſtate money of the emiſſion of April 1781,		3400 0 0
XV. The arrears of principal and intereſt of the purchaſe money of land granted by the late proprietaries before 10th December 1776. *Note.* By act of March 28th 1787, three fourths of ſaid purchaſe money is made payable in funded certificates, provided they are paid before the 10th of April 1788. The amount of this fund is conſiderable, and may produce, annually, about		7500 0 0
XVI. Of the £ 150000 loan-office, erected per act February 1773, there remains of quota money,	22119 17 2	
Intereſt money now due,	17129 19 4	39249 16 6
XVII. The annual amount of the exciſe upon ſpirituous liquors,		17500 0 0

XVIII. The

XVIII. The duties on ſales by the auctioneers, payable to the ſtate,	£ 3500	0	0
XIX. The monies ariſing from tavern and marriage licences, which by act of 25th March 1785 are ſpecially charged with the ſalaries of the judges of the ſupreme court, annually,	4150	0	0
XX. Court fines and forfeitures, annually,	1000	0	0

Note. A great proportion of the *fines* and *forfeitures* which are incurred are now remitted.

XXI. The fees of the ſecretary of the council, the ſecretary, ſurveyor and receiver-general of the land-office, annually,	13800	0	0
XXII. The monies ariſing from the tax upon writs from the prothonotaries of ſeveral counties, per act of March 1783, including the tax upon writs and ſummonſes from the prothonotary of the ſupreme court, per act of September 25th 1786,	3000	0	0
XXIII. The arrearages due from the city and the ſeveral counties on the tax upon pleaſurable carriages, for 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786 and 1787,	11450	0	0

The ſum actually due upon theſe taxes is not ſo great, for the county treaſurers frequently have paid in the money collected from this tax as of the quota taxes of ſuch county, but the balances due therein are ſo much the more, as the arrears actually due hereon are leſs than the above.

XXIV. The annual tax upon pleaſurable carriages, per act 20th March 1783,	2600	0	0
XXV. The remains of the old £ 80000 loan-office, principal and intereſt,	920	0	0
XXVI. The principal of the loan-office erected per act 4th April 1785,	50000	0	0
XXVII. One year's intereſt of ſaid loan, with the arrears of intereſt due and on hand,	7160	0	0
XXVIII. The duties ariſing upon goods imported into this ſtate for one year, including the duties now outſtanding,	90000	0	0
XXIX. There are ſundry debts and balances of accounts to be recovered,	7800	0	0
XXX. The militia fines, and arrearages thereof,	35000	0	0
XXXI. The arrearages due on the ſecond claſs tax in the ſeveral counties,	8700	0	0
XXXII. There yet remains of forfeited eſtates, appropriated per act of 8th December 1780 for redeeming the certificates of depreciation, ſay	20000	0	0

XXXIII. Of the city lots, which according to act of April 8th 1786 have been ſold for funded certificates, and for depreciation certificates funded or unfunded, a conſiderable ſum of the purchaſe money hath not yet been paid, and there yet remains a part of that property to be ſold for redeeming more of the public debt.

XXXIV. Of the depreciation tract of country, directed by act of March 12th 1783 to be ſold for redemption of the depreciation certificates, a conſiderable part remains unſold, and of the part which hath been ſold a large ſum of the purchaſe money hath not yet been paid; both of which will leſſen the depreciation certificates to be redeemed.

XXXV. The neat proceeds of the ſales of the reſerved tract, and of the town laid out oppoſite Pittſburg on the northweſt ſide of the river Ohio, as directed by act paſſed September 11th 1787, will redeem a part of the public debt.

XXXVI. The purchaſe money of lands within the ſtate of Pennſylvania not yet granted, and the arrears not yet paid for that which hath been granted, affords a reſpectable fund for the redemption of the public debt of the commonwealth.

XXXVII. The eſcheats to the commonwealth is yet an untried ſource of revenue. An act hath been paſſed September 29th 1787, for ſecuring them for the public benefit, and ſomething conſiderable will eventually be produced therefrom; but as the real property cannot be ſold for ſome time, it will not be ſo immediately productive.

An Abſtract of the Debts of the Commonwealth, the Sums paid, and the Balances now due.

	Amount.			Redeemed.			Yet Due.		
The bills of April 1780, (10) -	£ 100000	0	0	£ 99162	0	0	£ 838	0	0
Ditto of June 1780, (11) -	414375	0	0	396990	15	0	17384	5	0
Ditto of April 1781, (12) -	486500	0	0	436901	11	6	49598	8	6
Ditto of March 1785, (14) -	150000	0	0	35000	0	0	115000	0	0
The treaſury notes, (13) - -	62464	6	3	62164	13	9	299	12	6
The new loan certificates, (1) -	1930873	2	4	56705	10	0	1874167	12	4
The funded debt ditto, (4) -	226822	7	9	22554	5	2	204268	2	7
The depreciation debt, (6) -	627585	11	4	356607	15	6	270977	15	10
The proprietary debt, (8) -	216666	13	4	21368	15	0	195297	18	4
Certificates for horſes and proviſions, including £ 631361 11 3, continental money, reduced, (15) - -	93494	10	7	93494	10	7			
Ditto of citizens of Pennſylvania, received in the land-office for lands, 774773$\frac{61}{90}$ dollars, making - -	290540	2	7	290540	2	7			
	£ 4599321	14	2	£ 1871489	19	1	£ 2727831	15	1

Recapitulation of the Revenues and Expences of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, exhibiting the ſame in a conciſe View.

In Continental Money.

The arrears of taxes due therein, (5) - - - -				£ 1482458	7	5

Contra.

The reſolve and commonwealth money to be redeemed, (9)	225699	1	7			
Surplus, - - -	1256759	5	10			
				1482458	7	5

In State Money.

The arrears of quota taxes due from the counties, (16) -	35198	18	11			
The arrears of the five ſhilling tax, (13) - - -	4500	0	0			
Ditto of the firſt claſs tax, (14) - - - -	3400	0	0			
One year's receipts at the land-office, in ſtate money, (15) -	7500	0	0			
				50598	18	11

Contra.

Bills of this emiſſion to be redeemed, (12) - -	49598	8	6			
Surplus carried forward, which will be paid in ſpecie, -	1000	10	5			
				50598	18	11

In Specie.

Balance above, brought down, - - -	1000	10	5
The arrears of quota taxes due from the counties, (7) -	324659	10	9
One year's annual tax, per act 16th March 1785, (8) -	76945	17	6
The neat proceeds of the lottery, (9) - - -	1681	7	3
The duty on paſſengers arriving at Philadelphia, annually, (10)	100	0	0
The tonnage upon ſhipping, annually, (11) - -	2450	0	0
The balance due for provincial taxes, (12) - - -	5600	0	0
The £ 150000 loan-office due, (16) - - -	39249	16	6
The exciſe upon ſpirituous liquors, annually, (17) - -	17500	0	0
The duties on ſales at auction, annually, (18) - -	3500	0	0
The tavern and marriage licence money, annually, (19) -	4150	0	0
Court fines and forfeitures, annually, (20) - - -	1000	0	0
The fees of the ſecretary of council and land-officers, annually, (21)	13800	0	0
Carried forward, -	£ 491637	2	5

Brought

Brought forward,	£ 491637	2	5			
The tax upon writs, annually, (22)	3000	0	0			
The arrears of the tax upon pleaſurable carriages, (23)	11450	0	0			
The tax upon pleaſurable carriages, annually, (24)	2600	0	0			
The £ 80,000 loan-office, (25)	920	0	0			
One year's intereſt on the £ [illegible]0,000, and arrears, (27)	7160	0	0			
Impoſts on goods imported annually, including the arrears now due, (28)	90000	0	0			
Debts, (29)	7800	0	0			
Arrearages due of the ſecond claſs tax, (31)	8700	0	0			
Militia fines, (30)	35000	0	0			
				£ 658267	2	5

Contra,

Due to the United States on the exiſting requiſitions, which alſo includes (article 16) the penſions to perſons diſabled in the ſervice, 254100 5/90 dollars,	95287	10	5			
Due annually to the widows and orphans of ſuch as have fallen in the ſervice, (17)	2497	10	0			
Pay of officers of government, and incidental expences, annually,	33400	0	0			
Support of the light-houſe, &c. &c.	2344	0	0			
Improving the navigation of Schuylkill, and repairing the roads leading from Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of the ſtate,	1681	7	3			
On account of the road from Cumberland county to Pittſburg,	600	0	0			
Ditto - from the Water-Gap to Wyoming,	200	0	0			
Ditto - from Conrad Minick's to Sunbury,	450	0	0			
Ditto - from Juniata to Conemaugh river,	200	0	0			
Incidental expences of State-Iſland hoſpital,	90	0	0			
Reſidue for running and marking the northern boundary,	500	0	0			
Arrears of intereſt on new loan certificates, (2)	149200	0	0			
Intereſt payable within one year on ſaid certificates, (3)	163475	1	7			
Ditto, - ditto, - on the certificates of funded debt, (5)	31702	2	6			
One year's intereſt of the funded depreciation certificates, (7)	13530	5	1			
Due to the late proprietaries, and to become due in one year, (8)	111431	5	0			
Due of the Iſland money, (10)	838	0	0			
Ditto of the dollar money, 46,358 dollars, with intereſt, (11)	22599	5	0			
Ditto of the intereſt notes, 799 dollars, (13)	299	12	6			
Ditto of the £ 20,000 directed by act of March 1785 to be burnt this year, and the next year's inſtalment to be deſtroyed, as aforeſaid, (14)	25000	0	0			
				655325	19	4
Surplus,				2941	3	1
				£ 658267	2	5

In Indents, or Facilities.

Amount receivable for arrears of intereſt till 1ſt January 1787 upon the certificates for debts due by the United States, the property of Pennſylvania,		*Dol.* 993000

Contra.

Due to the United States on the exiſting requiſitions herein,	358695 52/90	
Surplus,	634303 38/90	
		Dol. 993000

JOHN NICHOLSON.

Comptroller-General's Office,
November 7th, 1787.

Ordered, That one hundred and fifty copies thereof be printed, for the uſe of the General Aſſembly.

The report of the committee on the petition of the Truſtees of *Franklin* College, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to veſt the public ſtore in the town of *Lancaſter,* and the two lots of ground on which the ſame is erected, in the Truſtees of *Franklin* College, for the uſe thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *November* 9th, relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on Lake *Erie,* was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to obtain, and lay before the General Aſſembly, a deſcription of the lands lying between the northern boundary of this ſtate and Lake *Erie,* with an eſtimate of the ſum neceſſary to purchaſe ſuch part thereof as may be thought neceſſary to accommodate this ſtate.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent* "*bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-"ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 13, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks* was read, praying that a part of the lands ſet apart for the endowment of public ſchools may be granted for the benefit of a public ſchool in the borough of *Reading.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to inſpect the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *&c.* made a further report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Reading,* read *September* 14th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *J. Heiſter,* Mr. *Trexler,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real* "*eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other* "*ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt,*" be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report read in the late Houſe *September* 27th laſt, on the petition of *Humphrey Fullerton,* be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

The petition of *John Penn,* junior, and *John Penn,* Eſquires, read *November* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *William Irvine, Samuel Meredith, John Armſtrong,* junior, *William Bingham* and *James R. Reed,* Eſquires, were duly elected.

The committee appointed *November* 10th, on the petition of *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues;*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, "*to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 14, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry,* in behalf of themſelves and others, the comedians, commonly called the *American Company,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of repealing ſo much of the laws of this commonwealth as prohibits dramatic entertainments.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the college of phyſicians of *Philadelphia* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, for checking the improper uſe of diſtilled ſpirituous liquors within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Bond* and others, late officers in the *American* Military Hoſpital, was read, referring to their memorial read in the late Houſe *March* 7th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

A petition from *James Pettigrew* and *Blackall William Ball* was read, ſetting forth, that they have loſt the certificates given to them for the depreciation due on their pay, and praying new ones may be granted them in lieu of thoſe which they have loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from 150 inhabitants of *Wayne* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, praying they may be exonerated from the payment of the taxes aſſeſſed on them in the years 1781 and 1782.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Berks* county, to report thereon.

The committee of accounts made a further report, that they had burnt and deſtroyed the ſum of *ſix thouſand two hundred pounds* of the emiſſion of *March* 16th, 1785, agreeably to law, which, with the ſum by them reported on *Saturday* laſt to have been burnt, amounts to *ſeventeen thouſand ſix hundred and fifty pounds.*

On motion of Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Clark*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to reviſe the preſent militia law, and report a bill for the better regulation of the militia of this commonwealth.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of the repreſentatives of *Ann Nedrow*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the petition of the *American* Philoſophical Society, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of granting to the *American* Philoſophical Society acres of unappropriated lands, as a fund for the laudable purpoſes ſet forth in their memorial.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, reſpecting the late election of Repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the repreſentation of the judges of the firſt election diſtrict of the county of *Bedford*, ſetting forth, that in drawing the votes a ticket appeared, in which the names of *John Piper* and *Jacob Saylor* were mentioned as members of Aſſembly, but the ticket not being cut according to law, it was not counted, yet was cauſed to be filed with the other tickets, by means of which ſaid ticket not being counted, ſaid *Jacob Saylor* and *Abraham Cable* had an equal number of votes, which would not have otherwiſe been the caſe; and as it is the opinion of your committee that an election ought not to be ſet aſide for ſo trifling a neglect as not cutting the ticket according to law, at leaſt where no fraud appears to have been intended, they therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That *Jacob Saylor* is duly elected a member in the General Aſſembly for the county of *Bedford* for the enſuing year, and that he be directed to take his ſeat accordingly.

The committee, to whom were referred the ſeveral papers relative to the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne*, made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Executive Council apppoint two perſons, one on the part of the ſtate, the other on the part of the ſaid *Pennſylvania Claimants*, and on the recommendation of them, or any conſiderable number of them, which two perſons ſhall chooſe a third.

Reſolved, That the ſaid three perſons ſhall be Commiſſioners, to examine into the value of the lands for which compenſation is to be made, and certify the ſame to the Board of Property, who ſhall finally determine on the ſame.

Reſolved, That the ſaid Claimants ſhall ſeverally have an option, to accept the compenſation in the reſiduum of the donation lands, or in any other public lands within the old or new purchaſes, not reſerved for the uſe of the commonwealth; or otherwiſe, in certificates to the amount, payable in inſtalments, and bearing an intereſt.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable commiſſioners therein to be named to lay out, in the improvement of the roads between the city of *Philadelphia* and the weſtern parts of the ſtate, the monies ariſing from the lottery lately drawn in purſuance of the act of Aſſembly for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads weſtward of the city, and towards improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill,* paſſed the 15th *March,* 1784.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *J. Heiſter* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots of ground in the borough and* "*county of* Lancaſter *in the Truſtees of* Franklin *College, for the uſe of the ſaid* "*inſtitution,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to veſt in* Richard Wells *and* John Clifford *the ſhare or portion of the* "*ſhip* Anna, *lately forfeited to the ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to veſt in the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate a power to remit, ei-* "*ther in the whole or in part, any forfeiture or forfeitures accrued to the ſtate* "*under the laws for the regulation of trade,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for erecting and opening "a loan-office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for* "*erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity* "*of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain* "*tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* "Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in* "*repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 15, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon,* Eſq; was read, praying, that when this Houſe ſhall paſs an act for the regulation of fees, a clauſe may be inſerted for veſting the Judge of Admiralty with the fees of his office, which are now made payable to the treaſury; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

A petition from *David Hillyer,* late quarter-maſter ſerjeant in the invalid regiment commanded by Colonel *Nichola,* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath not received the gratuity of eighty dollars promiſed to thoſe who continued in the ſervice until the end of the war, and praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof to be made to him; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

A petition from *Thomas Prieſt* was read, praying this Houſe to grant him an annual ſum of money, to enable him to carry the mail between the city of *Philadelphia* and the weſtern counties of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A propoſal from *John Skinner,* of the county of *Franklin,* was preſented to the chair, and read, engaging, on the part of himſelf, his heirs and aſſigns, to keep and maintain the ſtate high-way in the ſame deſcribed in good repair, provided that he, his heirs and aſſigns, may by law be diſcharged from the payment of taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of manufacturers and others, dealers in coal, was read, praying that the admeaſurement of coal may be put under the direction of the officer already appointed for the admeaſurement of ſalt, *&c.* and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Will* and Mr. *M'Lene,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of 150 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Wayne* and *Derry,* in the county of *Cumberland,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Oliver,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 2d, on the petition and remonſtrance of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of the repreſentatives of *Ann Nedrow*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Trea*" *ſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor* "*of* Alexander M'Dowell," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for veſting* *thouſand acres of unappropriated land in the* "*incorporated* American *Philoſophical Society, held in* Philadelphia, *for promot*" *ing of uſeful knowledge*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to alter and amend an act, enti" tuled " *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly hereto*" *fore made for regulating the elections of juſtices of the peace throughout this* "*ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch elections; and to au*" *thoriſe the juſtices of the peace of the city of* Philadelphia *to hold the courts* "*of record of the ſaid city; and to make further proviſion for the due election* "*and return of juſtices of the peace elect*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to " certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claim" ed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mention" ed," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* Thomas M'Intire, James Young, Antoine Baſtide *and* " Charles Buſſelot, *inſolvent debtors, now confined in the gaol of the city and* "*county of* Philadelphia," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 16, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl*, and others, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of *Margaret Davis*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an Act, entituled* " An Act for aſ- " certaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, " the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the Act, entituled* " An Act to alter " and amend an Act, entituled " *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral* " *Acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of juſtices of* " *the peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding* " *ſuch elections; and to authoriſe the juſtices of the peace of the city of* Philadel- " phia *to hold the courts of record of the ſaid city; and to make further proviſion* " *for the election and return of juſtices of the peace elect*;" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 17, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Carſon*, Eſquire, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr *Maclay* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

A petition from *Garret Broadhead* and *Cornelius Vanhorne*, in behalf of themſelves and others, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled " *An Act* " *for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim- " ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other* " *purpoſes therein mentioned*," and praying the operation thereof may be ſuſpended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* was read, praying a further time may be allowed them to preſent their claims to the commiſſioners appointed under the act above recited.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Zebulon Butler* was read, ſetting forth, that in conformity to the act, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for* "*pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" he ſurrendered himſelf, and entered into a recognizance, with one ſurety; that notwithſtanding his ſurrender aforeſaid, a ſuit was inſtituted againſt him for a certain treſpaſs ſaid to have been committed, and judgment awarded thereupon for a conſiderable ſum of money; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to take immediate meaſures for locating and ſurveying ſixty thouſand acres of land, for the uſe of public ſchools, agreeably to the law paſſed the 7th day of *April*, 1785.

The committee of accounts made a final report, that they had at different times during the preſent ſeſſion received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, the following bills of credit, emitted by act of General Aſſembly paſſed the ſixteenth day of *March*, 1785, *viz.*

7295 bills of *twenty ſhillings* each, - -	£ 7295	0	0
9000 ditto of *fifteen ſhillings* each, - - -	6750	0	0
6000 ditto of *ten ſhillings* each, - - -	3000	0	0
6600 ditto of *five ſhillings* each, - - -	1650	0	0
4800 ditto of *two ſhillings* and *ſix-pence* each, - -	600	0	0
4800 ditto of *one ſhilling* and *ſix-pence* each, -	360	0	0
6800 ditto of *nine-pence* each, - - -	255	0	0
7200 ditto of *three-pence* each, - - -	90	0	0
	£ 20000	0	0

All which they have examined, counted and burnt, according to law.

The report of the committee on the petition of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the claim of Colonel *Francis Mentges*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time:

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing and empowering the Comptroller to iſſue a certificate to ſaid Colonel *Mentges* for the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, bearing intereſt from the day , as a compenſation for his ſervices.

It was carried in the negative.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of *Devereux Smith*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report read *November* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Weſt-Cheſter*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, conſtituting a certain diſtrict of country, contiguous to ſaid court-houſe, the county town, bounded as ſet forth in their petition, and called *Weſt-Cheſter.*

Ordered, That the members from *Cheſter* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *November* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report read *November* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Moyamenſing, &c.* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The committee, to whom was re-committed this forenoon the report on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the eſtabliſhment of a ſeminary of learning, agreeably to ſaid petition, and for the endowment of the ſame with acres of the unappropriated lands within this commonwealth.

Ordered, That the members from *Berks* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots* "*of ground in the borough and county of* Lancaſter *in the truſtees of* Franklin "*College, for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entituled "*An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw* "*an order on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine pounds ten "ſhillings, *in favor of* Alexander M'Dowell," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entituled "*An Act for veſting thouſand acres of unappropri-* "*ated lands in the incorporated* American *Philoſophical Society for promoting of* "*uſeful knowledge,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for erecting and "opening a Loan-Office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds,*" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 19, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *John Penn,* junior, and *John Penn,* Eſquires, was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the Repreſentatives of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania.

The Memorial of JOHN PENN, *junior, and* JOHN PENN,

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT by the act of Aſſembly paſſed in the year 1779, veſting the proprietary eſtate of your memorialiſts in the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* their lands, known by the name of *Proprietary Tenths* or *Manors,* were excepted, and confirmed to them.

That by the negligence of your memorialiſts' ſurveyors and other ſervants, the ſurveys of divers of the aforeſaid tenths or manors were not made and regularly returned into the land-office on or before the 4th day of *July,* 1776, although the warrants for that purpoſe had been iſſued long before that period, by means of which negligence the property of your memorialiſts in many of the ſaid tenths or manors, which have heretofore been poſſeſſed by them as ſuch, has become doubtful.

Your memorialiſts, being firmly perſuaded that the intention of the abovementioned act was to confirm to them all ſuch tenths or manors, as, by warrant or other act of appropriation, had been excepted and ſeparated from the public proprietary eſtate before the period of *American* independence, therefore beg leave to lay before you an account of ſuch manors and tenths as were not ſurveyed and returned into the land-office on or before the 4th of *July,* 1776, and pray the Honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to confirm the ſame to them.

And your memorialiſts beg leave further to repreſent to your Honorable Houſe, that, by the above-mentioned act of 1779, beſides the aforeſaid tenths or manors, there was reſerved to the late proprietaries all their private eſtates, lands and hereditaments, which they were then entitled to in their private capacity, by deviſe, purchaſe or deſcent, and that, ſince the paſſing of the ſaid act, doubts have ariſen, whether, by the general terms made uſe of in the ſame, the ſaid act has ſufficiently confirmed to your memorialiſts all ſuch eſtates as they then poſſeſſed or were entitled to by purchaſe, of themſelves or their anceſtors, from ſuch perſons as held the ſame by virtue of ſome prior warrant, ſurvey or location: Your memorialiſts therefore pray the Honorable Houſe will, by an explanatory clauſe, confirm to them all the ſaid private eſtates, lands and hereditaments.

And your memorialiſts, fully relying on the inclination of the Honorable Houſe to relieve them from the loſſes they have ſuſtained by the late revolution, as far as is conſiſtent with the preſent ſituation of the commonwealth, beg leave further to inform the Honorable Houſe, they have lately had conſiderable demands made on them for arrears of taxes on the aforeſaid tenths or manors and private eſtates, which, if they are compelled to pay, would be ſtill adding to their loſs, which has been already ſo great. Your memorialiſts therefore pray your Honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to exempt them from the payment of all ſuch taxes, as were due and in arrear from them on or before the 1ſt day of *January,* 1787.

JOHN PENN, junior,
JOHN PENN.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

A petition from *James Young*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that his caſe is differently circumſtanced from thoſe other inſolvents whoſe names are inſerted in the ſame bill with his, inaſmuch as he hath on oath aſſigned his property to truſtees, for the payment of his juſt debts; therefore praying that ſuch reviſal or amendment may take place in ſaid bill, as will extend to him ſuitable relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred the ſeveral petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others, made a further report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Zebulon Butler*, read *November* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *A* " *Supplement to the Act*, *entituled* " An Act for regulating the meaſurement " of corn, and ſalt imported into the port of *Philadelphia*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and* " *amend an act*, *entituled* " An Act for erecting and opening a loan-office for " the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an Act*, *entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them " claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," and that it be the order for the day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *November* 20, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a committee, choſen by the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh* and the neighbouring country, was read, referring to the petitions to former Houſes of Aſſembly, and praying that parts of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* may be erected into a new county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be fixed and eſtabliſhed at *Hanna's-town*, as being the moſt eligible place for that purpoſe within the ſame county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the petitions of a ſimilar tenor remaining on the files of the General Aſſembly, be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A letter from the Honorable *George Woods,* Eſquire, incloſing certain papers controverting the petition of *Lewis Kaſſelman,* read in the late Houſe *September* 7th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Zebulon Butler,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl* and others, was read the ſecond time, and the reſolution in part adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *David Woelper,* the corps of invalids, *Nicholas Krebl, Daniel Murphy, John Wiley, John Wilſon* and *Richard Swan, Henry Brink* and *William Van Gorder,* and *John Conrad Latour,* have leave to withdraw their reſpective petitions.

Ordered, That the reſidue of the ſaid report, relative to the claim of *Abraham Lukens,* be re-committed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for erecting a certain diſtrict of country, in which the court-houſe in* "Cheſter *county ſtands, into a county town,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the "ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads leading "from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards "the improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to incorporate and endow an academy or public ſchool in the borough of* "Reading, *in the county of* Berks," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for regulating the meaſurement of corn, and ſalt imported into the port of *Philadelphia,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and
" confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by
" them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes there-
" in mentioned," and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 21, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Ettwein* and *John Meder*, on behalf of the members of the Epiſcopal Church of the United Brethren, who have formed themſelves into a ſociety for propagating the goſpel among the heathen, praying to be incorporated, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

Petitions from 753 inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington* and *Fayette*, read in the late Houſe *September* 13th laſt, were preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

A petition from 93 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the ſouthern parts of the ſame may be erected into a new county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The memorial of the College of Phyſicians of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for apportioning to the city of *Philadelphia*, and to each county within this commonwealth, their ſeveral and reſpective ſhares or proportions of ſixty thouſand acres of public land, reſerved for the uſe of public ſchools by act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventh day of *April*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix; and for cauſing the ſaid city and each county to pay the neceſſary expences attending the taking up their reſpective proportions of the ſame.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred, *November* 13th, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and "to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt,*" made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the expediency of granting a further time for the application of the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line to draw for and take up lands, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Barr,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to encourage "the manufactures of this ſtate,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to veſt in* Richard Wells *and* John Clifford *the "ſhare or portion of the ſhip* Anna, *lately forfeited to the ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill until to-morrow.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Calmont* and Mr. *M‘Dowell,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *William Mitchell,*
3 *Joſeph Reed,*
4 *Joſeph Lilley,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Thomas Beale,*
7 *Thomas Kennedy,*
8 *John Oliver,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Joſeph Sands,*
11 *Philip Kreemer,*
12 *Peter Burkhalter,*
13 *John Piper,*
14 *William Findley,*
15 *James Barr,*

YEAS.

16 *John Irvine,*
17 *John M‘Dowell,*
18 *James Alliſon,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Flenniken,*
21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James M‘Lene,*
24 *James M‘Calmont,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *Jacob Miley,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *Richard Peters,*

NAYS.

7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*

NAYS.

13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*

NAYS.

21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *David M‘Clellan,*
24 *Thomas Clingan,*
25 *John White,*
26 *Robert Lollar,*
27 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 22, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A remonſtrance and petition from the Managers of the Houſe of Employment and the Overſeers of the Poor of the city of *Philadelphia,* and diſtricts connected therewith, was read, ſuggeſting divers alterations and amendments to the Poor laws now in force, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

A petition from ſeveral members of a committee of the public creditors was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled,* “ An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,” praying that ſo much of the ſaid bill, as directs the payment of the equivalent to the *Pennſylvania Claimants* of lands in the county of *Luzerne* out of the funds heretofore appropriated, may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *November* 13th, the report on the petition of *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on ways and means, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That an additional duty of *two-pence* per-gallon be laid on *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per gallon be laid on all wines imported in caſks, other than *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one ſhilling* per dozen be laid on all wines imported in bottles; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all bohea teas imported; that an additional duty of *three-pence* per pound be laid on all teas imported, other than bohea teas; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all coffee imported.

It was moved by Mr. *Peters,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

To add, at the end of the ſaid reſolution, the words, “ *That an additional duty of* ſix-pence *per buſhel be laid on all ſalt imported.*”

On the queſtion—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Clemſon*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Richard Willing,*
12 *Townſend Whelen,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Joſeph Work.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *John Chapman,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *Valentine Upp,*
5 *Robert Ralſton,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *James Clemſon,*
8 *Jacob Erb,*
9 *John Hopkins,*
10 *William Mitchell,*
11 *David M‘Clellan,*
12 *Joſeph Lilley,*
13 *Joſeph Reed,*
14 *Thomas Clingan,*
15 *David Mitchell,*
16 *Thomas Beale,*
17 *Thomas Kennedy,*
18 *John Oliver,*
19 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
20 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
21 *David Davis,*
22 *Joſeph Sands,*
23 *Philip Kreemer,*
24 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
25 *Peter Burkhalter,*
26 *John Piper,*
27 *John White,*
28 *William Findley,*
29 *James Barr,*
30 *John Irvine,*
31 *John M‘Dowell,*
32 *James Alliſon,*
33 *Alexander Wright,*
34 *John Flenniken,*
35 *Theophilus Philips,*
36 *John Gilchreeſt,*
37 *James M‘Lene,*
38 *James M‘Calmont,*
39 *Jacob Reiff,*
40 *Robert Lollar,*
41 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
42 *Peter Richards,*
43 *Jacob Miley,*
44 *Robert Clark,*
45 *John Paul Schott,*
46 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The Houſe then fully debated the ſaid report, and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means report,——

That having obtained from the Comptroller-General a ſtatement of the debts and revenues of the commonwealth, they find,

That the debts now due, and that will become due in the year 1788, amount to - -	£ 3,250,947 0 0
And that the engagements of the ſtate for the year 1788, excluſive of the requiſition of Congreſs, amount to - - -	£ 475,706 0 0

The requiſition of Congreſs for the year 1788 amounts to 358,696 dollars in facilities, and 254,100 dollars in ſpecie.

The means relied on for the eventual payment of the principal, and the payment of the annual intereſt and expences, are

1ſt. The balance that will be due from the United States upon the final adjuſtment of accounts.

2d. The public lands.

3d. The arrears of purchaſe money due for lands bought of the late proprietaries.

4th. Arrears of taxes due to the commonwealth. And

5th. The annual taxes and revenues.

With reſpect to the firſt, no computation can be formed with any certainty. But ſuppoſing this ſtate to have furniſhed ſupplies during the war in the ſame proportion with the other ſtates, and admitting it to be chargeable with its proportion of the exiſting debt, foreign and domeſtic, it would ſtand nearly as follows:

Amount of debt due by the United States, -	*Dol.* 38,000,000
The proportion of *Pennſylvania*, one eighth, -	*Dol.* 4,750,000
The ſtate has poſſeſſed itſelf of certificates of the United States to amount of 6,196,368 dollars, which exceeds her proportion, - - -	*Dol.* 1,446,368
Balance of intereſt due, after diſcharging the requiſition of 1787, - - - - -	380,264
	Dol. 1,826,632

She will, moreover, be entitled to an annual intereſt of 86,752 dollars upon the above ſum of 1,446,368 dollars, over and above her full quota of the intereſt on the foreign and domeſtic debt.

It may be remarked here, that Congreſs have already ſold ſome millions of acres of the public lands, which of courſe leſſens the debt due by the United States, and increaſes the balance due to *Pennſylvania*. Nevertheleſs, we are called upon for our full proportion of the intereſt of the foreign debt, and of the expence of the fœderal government.

The ſecond means mentioned is the public lands,——and theſe muſt no doubt produce a conſiderable ſum; but as certificates are made receivable for the payment, and the quantity offered by the United States, as well as the individual ſtates, is great, this can only operate hereafter towards the redemption of the capital.

The third fund is the arrears of purchaſe money due to the late proprietaries, the extent of which has never been aſcertained, but is ſaid to be conſiderable. Three fourths of it is by law made receiveable in certificates, the other one fourth in the money of 1780, ſo that this can only operate to the redemption of the capital.

A fourth revenue relied on is the arrears of taxes, which is ſtated to amount to £ 380,419. Theſe appear to be due in very unequal proportions by the different counties in the ſtate; and the committee have reaſon to believe that there are great neglects in the perſons appointed to the collection, and that large ſums which have been collected are with-held from the public treaſury.

ſury. By the means now in operation, and ſome improvements which may be adopted, the committee are informed that there may be relied on for the enſuing year, from this fund,	£ 75,000	0	0
Annual tax upon property,	76,945	0	0
Duty on tonnage and paſſengers,	2,550	0	0
Produce of the exciſe,	16,000	0	0
Duty on ſales at auction,	3,500	0	0
Tavern and marriage licences,	4,450	0	0
Court fines and forfeitures,	1,000	0	0
Fees of the Secretary and land-office,	13,800	0	0
Tax upon writs,	3,000	0	0
On pleaſurable carriages,	2,600	0	0
On impoſt,	60,000	0	0
Debts due to the ſtate,	7,800	0	0
The eſtimate of arrears being made upon returns from the treaſury to the 1ſt *November*, it is preſumed that payments will be made from that time to the 31ſt *December* next, to amount of	40,000	0	0
Whole amount for the year 1788,	£ 306,645	0	0

From hence it appears, that there will be a deficiency in the preſent funds for making good the engagements of the ſtate for the year 1788, of £ 73,774, excluſive of the requiſition of Congreſs.

However deſirous the committee are of providing for this deficiency, upon the fulleſt conſideration of the ſubject, they can only recommend, that the funds already appropriated to theſe ſeveral demands ſhould be faithfully applied thereto, and rely on the operation of the meaſures taken for ſinking the capital.

With reſpect to the requiſition of Congreſs for ſpecie, the committee obſerve, that as the ſtate is creditor to the United States for a ſum beyond her proportion of the aggregate debt, it would be unjuſt to burthen the good people of this commonwealth to make good the deficiencies of other ſtates. Nevertheleſs, the committee, finding a principle laid down by a former committee, and acceded to by the Houſe of Aſſembly, *to wit*, That the ſtate ſhould contribute its quota towards the ſupport of the fœderal government, they recommend that the preſent Houſe make proviſion for that purpoſe.

By the eſtimate of 1787, it appears that the quota of this ſtate for that purpoſe amounts to 59,780 dollars, equal to	£ 22,417	10	0
There will likewiſe be wanted, to raiſe and ſupport a force deſtined to quiet the diſturbances in *Luzerne* county,	—	—	—

The committee, adhering to their principle of leaving untouched the funds of the ſtate already appropriated, and believing that it would be improper to increaſe direct taxation, propoſe the following means:——

That the preſent exciſe be doubled; that an additional duty of *two-pence* per gallon be laid on *Madeira*, and *one penny* per gallon on all other wines; that an additional duty of *one ſhilling* per dozen be laid on all wines imported in bottles; that *one-penny* per pound be laid on all coffee imported; *one-penny* per pound on all bohea teas, and *three-pence* per pound on all other teas.

The committee, not having the means of eſtimating accurately the produce of theſe duties, alſo recommend, that if the ſum raiſed therefrom ſhall not be ſufficient, that the Houſe agree to lay other duties, to make good the deficiency.

In conformity with which the committee ſubmit the following reſolutions.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report a plan for the better collection of the taxes.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That the duties on Exciſe be doubled.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *M'Lene*, and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Reſolved, That an additional duty of *two-pence* per gallon be laid on *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per gallon be laid on all wines imported in caſks, other than *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one ſhilling* per dozen be laid on all wines imported in bottles; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all bohea teas imported; that an additional duty of *three-pence* per pound be laid on all teas imported, other than bohea teas; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all coffee imported.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Logan* be a commitee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That the duties aforeſaid be ſpecially appropriated for the diſcharge of this ſtate's quota of the expence of the Fœderal Government, and for defraying the expence of the troops to be raiſed for quieting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, and ſhall continue for one year only.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report a plan for the better collection of the Exciſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That if the funds propoſed by the foregoing reſolutions ſhall be found deficient, the Houſe will make good, by other funds, ſuch deficiency.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

Ordered, That the proceedings of the late Fœderal Convention, containing the conſtitution by them propoſed for the government of the United States, as officially tranſmitted from the United States in Congreſs aſſembled by the honorable Executive Council, with their meſſage of *October* 27th laſt, be inſerted on the journals of this Houſe.

WE, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, eſtabliſh juſtice, inſure domeſtic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and ſecure the bleſſings of liberty to ourſelves and our poſterity, do ordain and eſtabliſh this CONSTITUTION for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. ALL legiſlative powers herein granted ſhall be veſted in a Congreſs of the United States, which ſhall conſiſt of a Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives.

Sect. 2. The Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall be compoſed of members choſen every ſecond year by the people of the ſeveral ſtates, and the electors in each ſtate ſhall have the qualifications requiſite for electors of the moſt numerous branch of the ſtate legiſlature.

No perſon ſhall be a repreſentative, who ſhall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and been ſeven years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate in which he ſhall be choſen.

Repreſentatives and direct taxes ſhall be apportioned among the ſeveral ſtates which may be included within this Union, according to their reſpective numbers, which ſhall be determined by adding to the whole number of free perſons, including thoſe bound to ſervice for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other perſons. The actual enumeration ſhall be made within three years after the firſt meeting of the Congreſs of the United States, and within every ſubſequent term of ten years, in ſuch manner as they ſhall by law direct. The number of repreſentatives ſhall not exceed one for every thirty thouſand, but each ſtate ſhall have at leaſt one repreſentative; and until ſuch enumeration ſhall be made, the ſtate of New-Hampſhire ſhall be entitled to chuſe three, Maſſachuſetts eight, Rhode-Iſland and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York ſix, New-Jerſey four, Pennſylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland ſix, Virginia ten, North-Carolina five, South-Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the repreſentation from any ſtate, the executive authority thereof ſhall iſſue writs of election to fill ſuch vacancies.

The Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall chooſe their Speaker and other officers; and ſhall have the ſole power of impeachment.

Sect. 3. The Senate of the United States ſhall be compoſed of two ſenators from each ſtate, choſen by the legiſlature thereof for ſix years; and each ſenator ſhall have one vote.

Immediately after they ſhall be aſſembled in conſequence of the firſt election, they ſhall be divided as equally as may be into three claſſes. The ſeats of the ſenators of the firſt claſs ſhall be vacated at the expiration of the ſecond year, of the ſecond claſs at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third claſs at the expiration of the ſixth year, ſo that one third may be choſen every ſecond year; and if vacancies happen, by reſignation or otherwiſe, during the receſs of the legiſlature of any ſtate, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legiſlature, which ſhall then fill ſuch vacancies.

No perſon ſhall be a ſenator, who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate for which he ſhall be choſen.

The Vice-Preſident of the United States ſhall be Preſident of the Senate, but ſhall have no vote, unleſs they be equally divided.

The Senate ſhall chooſe their other officers, and alſo a Preſident *pro tempore*, in the abſence of the Vice-Preſident, or when he ſhall exerciſe the office of Preſident of the United States.

The Senate ſhall have the ſole power to try all impeachments. When ſitting for that purpoſe, they ſhall be on oath or affirmation. When the Preſident of the United States is tried, the Chief Juſtice ſhall preſide: And no perſon ſhall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members preſent.

Judgment, in caſes of impeachment, ſhall not extend further than to removal from office, and diſqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, truſt or profit, under the United States; but the party convicted ſhall nevertheleſs be liable and ſubject to indictment, trial, judgment and puniſhment, according to law.

Sect. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for ſenators and repreſentatives ſhall be preſcribed in each ſtate by the legiſlature thereof; but the Congreſs may at any time by law make or alter ſuch regulations, except as to the places of chooſing Senators.

The Congreſs ſhall aſſemble at leaſt once in every year, and ſuch meeting ſhall be on the firſt Monday in December, unleſs they ſhall by law appoint a different day.

Sect..5. Each houſe ſhall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each ſhall conſtitute a quorum to do buſineſs; but a ſmaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authoriſed to compel the attendance of abſent members, in ſuch manner, and under ſuch penalties, as each houſe may provide.

Each houſe may determine the rules of its proceedings, puniſh its members for diſorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each houſe ſhall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publiſh the ſame, excepting ſuch parts as may in their judgment require ſecrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either houſe on any queſtion ſhall, at the deſire of one fifth of thoſe preſent, be entered on the journal.

Neither houſe, during the ſeſſion of Congreſs, ſhall, without the conſent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houſes ſhall be ſitting.

Sect. 6. The ſenators and repreſentatives ſhall receive a compenſation for their ſervices, to be aſcertained by law, and paid out of the treaſury of the United States. They ſhall in all caſes, except treaſon, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arreſt during their attendance at the ſeſſion of their reſpective houſes, and in going to and returning from the ſame; and for any ſpeech or debate, in either houſe, they ſhall not be queſtioned in any other place.

No ſenator or repreſentative ſhall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which ſhall have been created, or the emoluments whereof ſhall have been encreaſed, during ſuch time; and no perſon holding any office under the United States ſhall be a member of either houſe during his continuance in office.

Sect. 7. All bills for raiſing revenue ſhall originate in the houſe of repreſentatives; but the ſenate may propoſe or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

Every bill which ſhall have paſſed the houſe of repreſentatives and the ſenate ſhall, before it become a law, be preſented to the preſident of the United States; if he approve, he ſhall ſign it; but if not, he ſhall return it, with his objections, to that houſe in which it ſhall have originated, who ſhall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to re-conſider it. If, after ſuch re-conſideration, two thirds of that houſe ſhall agree to paſs the bill, it ſhall be ſent, together with the objections, to the other houſe, by which it ſhall likewiſe be re-conſidered, and, if approved by two thirds of that houſe, it ſhall become a law. But in all ſuch caſes, the votes of both houſes ſhall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the perſons voting for and againſt the bill ſhall be entered on the journal of each houſe reſpectively. If any bill ſhall not be returned by the Preſident within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it ſhall have been preſented to him, the ſame ſhall be a law, in like manner as if he had ſigned it, unleſs the Congreſs, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which caſe it ſhall not be a law.

Every order, reſolution or vote, to which the concurrence of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives may be neceſſary (except on a queſtion of adjournment) ſhall be preſented to the Preſident of the United States, and, before the ſame ſhall take effect, ſhall be approved by him, or, being diſapproved by him, ſhall be re-paſſed by two thirds of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives, according to the rules and limitations preſcribed in the caſe of a bill.

Sect. 8. The Congreſs ſhall have power

To lay and collect taxes, duties, impoſts and exciſes, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, impoſts and exciſes, ſhall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the ſeveral ſtates, and with the Indian tribes;

To eſtabliſh an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the ſubject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the ſtandard of weights and meaſures;

To provide for the puniſhment of counterfeiting the ſecurities and current coin of the United States;

To eſtabliſh poſt-offices and poſt-roads;

To promote the progreſs of ſcience and uſeful arts, by ſecuring for limited times, to authors and inventors, the excluſive right to their reſpective writings and diſcoveries;

To conſtitute tribunals inferior to the ſupreme court;

To define and puniſh piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, and offences againſt the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and repriſal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raiſe and ſupport armies; but no appropriation of money to that uſe ſhall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, ſuppreſs inſurrections, and repel invaſions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and diſciplining the militia, and for governing ſuch part of them as may be employed in the ſervice of the United States; reſerving to the ſtates, reſpectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the diſcipline preſcribed by Congreſs;

To exerciſe excluſive legiſlation, in all caſes whatſoever, over ſuch diſtrict, (not exceeding ten miles ſquare) as may, by ceſſion of particular ſtates, and the acceptance of Congreſs, become the ſeat of the government of the United States; and to exerciſe like authority over all places purchaſed by the conſent of the legiſlature of the ſtate in which the ſame ſhall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arſenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings;—And

To make all laws which ſhall be neceſſary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers veſted by this conſtitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Sect. 9. The migration or importation of ſuch perſons as any of the ſtates now exiſting ſhall think proper to admit, ſhall not be prohibited by the Congreſs prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight; but a tax or duty may be impoſed on ſuch importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each perſon.

The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* ſhall not be ſuſpended, unleſs when in caſes of rebellion or invaſion the public ſafety may require it.

No bill of attainder or *ex poſt facto* law ſhall be paſſed.

No capitation or other direct tax ſhall be laid, unleſs in proportion to the cenſus or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty ſhall be laid on articles exported from any ſtate. No preference ſhall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one ſtate over thoſe of another: nor ſhall veſſels bound to, or from, one ſtate, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money ſhall be drawn from the treaſury, but in conſequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular ſtatement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money ſhall be publiſhed from time to time.

No title of nobility ſhall be granted by the United States:—And no perſon holding any office of profit or truſt under them ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, accept of any preſent, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign ſtate.

Sect. 10. No ſtate ſhall enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation; grant letters of marque and repriſal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and ſilver coin a tender in payment of debts; paſs any bills of attainder, *ex poſt facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, lay any impoſt or duties on imports or exports, except what may be abſolutely neceſſary for executing its inſpection laws; and the nett produce of all duties and impoſts laid by any ſtate on imports or exports ſhall be for the uſe of the treaſury of the United States; and all ſuch laws ſhall be ſubject to the reviſion and controul of the Congreſs. No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of Congreſs, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ſhips of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another ſtate, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unleſs actually invaded, or in ſuch imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II.

Sect. 1. The executive power ſhall be veſted in a Preſident of the United States of America. He ſhall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice-Preſident, choſen for the ſame term, be elected as follows:

Each ſtate ſhall appoint, in ſuch manner as the legiſlature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Repreſentatives to which the ſtate may be entitled in the Congreſs: But no

Senator or Repreſentative, or perſon holding an office of truſt or profit under the United States, ſhall be appointed an elector.

The electors ſhall meet in their reſpective ſtates, and vote by ballot for two perſons, of whom one at leaſt ſhall not be an inhabitant of the ſame ſtate with themſelves. And they ſhall make a liſt of all the perſons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which liſt they ſhall ſign and certify, and tranſmit ſealed to the ſeat of the government of the United States, directed to the Preſident of the Senate. The Preſident of the Senate ſhall, in the preſence of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives, open all the certificates, and the votes ſhall then be counted. The perſon having the greateſt number of votes ſhall be the Preſident, if ſuch number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have ſuch majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall immediately chooſe by ballot one of them for Preſident; and if no perſon have a majority, then from the five higheſt on the liſt the ſaid Houſe ſhall in like manner chooſe the Preſident. But in chooſing the Preſident, the votes ſhall be taken by ſtates, the Repreſentation from each ſtate having one vote; a quorum for this purpoſe ſhall conſiſt of a member or members from two thirds of the ſtates, and a majority of all the ſtates ſhall be neceſſary to a choice. In every caſe, after the choice of the Preſident, the perſon having the greateſt number of votes of the electors ſhall be the Vice-Preſident. But if there ſhould remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate ſhall chooſe from them by ballot the Vice-Preſident.

The Congreſs may determine the time of chooſing the electors, and the day on which they ſhall give their votes; which day ſhall be the ſame throughout the United States.

No perſon, except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be eligible to the office of Preſident; neither ſhall any perſon be eligible to that office, who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a reſident within the United States.

In caſe of the removal of the Preſident from office, or of his death, reſignation, or inability to diſcharge the powers and duties of the ſaid office, the ſame ſhall devolve on the Vice-Preſident, and the Congreſs may by law provide for the caſe of removal, death, reſignation or inability, both of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, declaring what officer ſhall then act as Preſident, and ſuch officer ſhall act accordingly, until the diſability be removed, or a Preſident ſhall be elected.

The Preſident ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for his ſervices a compenſation, which ſhall neither be encreaſed or diminiſhed during the period for which he ſhall have been elected, and he ſhall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he ſhall take the following oath or affirmation;

"I do ſolemnly ſwear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of Preſident of the United States, and will, to the beſt of my ability, preſerve, protect and defend the conſtitution of the United States."

Sect. 2. The Preſident ſhall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the ſeveral ſtates, when called into the actual ſervice of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any ſubject relating to the duties of their reſpective offices, and he ſhall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences againſt the United States, except in caſes of impeachment.

He ſhall have power, by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators preſent concur; and he ſhall nominate, and, by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate, ſhall appoint Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls, Judges of the ſupreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whoſe appointments are not herein otherwiſe provided for, and which ſhall be eſtabliſhed by law: But the Congreſs may by law veſt the appointment of ſuch inferior officers as they think proper in the Preſident alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The Preſident ſhall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the receſs of the Senate, by granting commiſſions, which ſhall expire at the end of their next ſeſſion.

Sect. 3. He ſhall from time to time give to the Congreſs information of the ſtate of the union, and recommend to their conſideration ſuch meaſures as he ſhall judge neceſſary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occaſions, convene both Houſes, or either of them, and in caſe of diſagreement between them, with reſpect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to ſuch time as he ſhall think proper; he ſhall receive Ambaſſadors and other public Miniſters; he ſhall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and ſhall commiſſion all the officers of the United States.

Sect. 4. The Preſident, Vice-Preſident, and all civil officers of the United States, ſhall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treaſon, bribery, or other high crimes and miſdemeanors.

ARTICLE III.

Sect. 1. The judicial power of the United States ſhall be veſted in one ſupreme court, and in ſuch inferior courts as the Congreſs may from time to time ordain and eſtabliſh. The judges, both of the ſupreme and inferior courts, ſhall hold their offices during good behaviour, and ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for their ſervices a compenſation, which ſhall not be diminiſhed during their continuance in office.

Sect. 2. The judicial power ſhall extend to all caſes in law and equity, ariſing under this conſtitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under their authority; to all caſes affecting Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls; to all caſes of Admiralty and Maritime Juriſdiction; to controverſies to which the United States ſhall be a party; to controverſies between two or more ſtates, between a ſtate and citizens of another ſtate, between citizens of different ſtates, between citizens of the ſame ſtate claiming lands under grants of different ſtates, and between a ſtate, or the citizens thereof, and foreign ſtates, citizens or ſubjects.

In all caſes affecting Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls, and thoſe in which a ſtate ſhall be party, the ſupreme court ſhall have original juriſdiction. In all the other caſes before mentioned, the ſupreme court ſhall have appellate juriſdiction, both as to law and fact, with ſuch exceptions, and under ſuch regulations, as the Congreſs ſhall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in caſes of impeachment, ſhall be by jury; and ſuch trial ſhall be held in the ſtate where the ſaid crimes ſhall have been committed; but when not committed within any ſtate, the trial ſhall be at ſuch place or places as the Congreſs may by law have directed.

Sect. 3. Treaſon againſt the United States ſhall conſiſt only, in levying war againſt them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No perſon ſhall be convicted of treaſon, unleſs on the teſtimony of two witneſſes to the ſame overt act, or on confeſſion in open court.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to declare the puniſhment of treaſon, but no attainder of treaſon ſhall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the perſon attainted.

ARTICLE IV.

Sect. 1. Full faith and credit ſhall be given in each ſtate to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other ſtate. And the Congreſs may by general laws preſcribe the manner in which ſuch acts, records and proceedings ſhall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Sect. 2. The citizens of each ſtate ſhall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the ſeveral ſtates.

A perſon charged in any ſtate with treaſon, felony, or other crime, who ſhall flee from juſtice, and be found in another ſtate, ſhall, on demand of the executive authority of the ſtate from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the ſtate having juriſdiction of the crime.

No perſon held to ſervice or labour in one ſtate, under the laws thereof, eſcaping into another, ſhall, in conſequence of any law or regulation therein, be diſcharged from ſuch ſervice or labour; but ſhall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom ſuch ſervice or labour may be due.

Sect. 3. New ſtates may be admitted by the Congreſs into this union; but no new ſtate ſhall be formed or erected within the juriſdiction of any other ſtate; nor any ſtate be formed by the junction of two or more ſtates, or parts of ſtates, without the conſent of the legiſlatures of the ſtates concerned, as well as of the Congreſs.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to diſpoſe of and make all needful rules and regulations reſpecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this conſtitution ſhall be ſo conſtrued as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular ſtate.

Sect. 4. The United States ſhall guarantee to every ſtate in this union a Republican form of government, and ſhall protect each of them againſt invaſion; and on application of the legiſlature, or of the executive (when the legiſlature cannot be convened) againſt domeſtic violence.

ARTICLE V.

The Congreſs, whenever two thirds of both houſes ſhall deem it neceſſary, ſhall propoſe amendments to this conſtitution, or, on the application of the legiſlatures of two thirds of the ſeveral ſtates, ſhall call a convention for propoſing amendments, which, in either caſe, ſhall be valid to all intents and purpoſes, as part of this conſtitution, when ratified by the legiſlatures of three fourths of the ſeveral ſtates, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be propoſed by the Congreſs: Provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight ſhall in any manner affect the firſt and fourth clauſes in the ninth ſection of the firſt article; and that no ſtate, without its conſent, ſhall be deprived of its equal ſuffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI.

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be as valid againſt the United States under this conſtitution, as under the confederation.

This conſtitution, and the laws of the United States which ſhall be made in purſuance thereof, and all treaties made, of which ſhall be made, under the authority of the United States, ſhall be the ſupreme law of the land; and the judges in every ſtate ſhall be bound thereby, any thing in the conſtitution or laws of any ſtate to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The Senators and Repreſentatives before mentioned, and the members of the ſeveral ſtate legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, ſhall be bound, by oath or affirmation, to ſupport this conſtitution; but no religious teſt ſhall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public truſt under the United States.

ARTICLE VII.

The ratification of the conventions of nine ſtates ſhall be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of this conſtitution between the ſtates ſo ratifying the ſame.

DONE in Convention, by the unanimous conſent of the States preſent, the ſeventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witneſs whereof we have hereunto ſubſcribed our names.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT,
And Deputy from VIRGINIA.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.	*John Langdon,* *Nicholas Gilman.*
MASSACHUSETTS.	*Nathaniel Gorham,* *Rufus King.*
CONNECTICUT.	*William Samuel Johnſon,* *Roger Sherman.*
NEW-YORK.	*Alexander Hamilton.*
NEW-JERSEY.	*William Livingſton,* *David Brearly,* *William Patterſon,* *Jonathan Dayton.*
PENNSYLVANIA.	*Benjamin Franklin,* *Thomas Mifflin,* *Robert Morris,* *George Clymer,* *Thomas Fitzſimons,* *Jared Ingerſoll,* *James Wilſon,* *Gouverneur Morris.*

DELAWARE.	*George Read,* *Gunning Bedford,* junior, *John Dickinſon,* *Richard Baſſett,* *Jacob Broom.*
MARYLAND.	*James M'Henry,* *Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer,* *Daniel Carrol.*
VIRGINIA.	*John Blair,* *James Maddiſon,* junior.
NORTH-CAROLINA.	*William Blount,* *Richard Dobbs Spaight,* *Hugh Williamſon.*
SOUTH-CAROLINA.	*John Rutledge,* *Charles Coteſworth Pinckney,* *Charles Pinckney,* *Pierce Butler.*
GEORGIA.	*William Few,* *Abraham Baldwin.*

ATTEST. WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

IN CONVENTION, MONDAY, *September* 17, 1787.

PRESENT.

The ſtates of *New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut,* Mr. HAMILTON from *New-York, New-Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina* and *Georgia* :

RESOLVED,

THAT the preceding Conſtitution be laid before the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it ſhould afterwards be ſubmitted to a Convention of Delegates, choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its legiſlature, for their aſſent and ratification; and that each Convention aſſenting to, and ratifying the ſame, ſhould give notice thereof to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that as ſoon as the Conventions of nine ſtates ſhall have ratified this Conſtitution, the United States in Congreſs aſſembled ſhould fix a day on which electors ſhould be appointed by the ſtates which ſhall have ratified the ſame, and a day on which the electors ſhould aſſemble to vote for the Preſident, and the time and place for commencing proceedings under this conſtitution: That after ſuch publication the electors ſhould be appointed, and the ſenators and repreſentatives elected: That the electors ſhould meet on the day fixed for the election of the Preſident, and ſhould tranſmit their votes, certified, ſigned, ſealed and directed, as the conſtitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled: That the Senators and Repreſentatives ſhould convene at the time and place aſſigned: That the Senators ſhould appoint a Preſident of the Senate, for the ſole purpoſe of receiving, opening and counting the votes for Preſident: And, that after he ſhall be choſen, the Congreſs, together with the Preſident, ſhould, without delay, proceed to execute this Conſtitution.

By the unanimous Order of the Convention,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Preſident.

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

IN CONVENTION, *September* 17, 1787.

SIR,

WE have now the honor to ſubmit to the conſideration of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, that Conſtitution which has appeared to us the moſt adviſeable.

The friends of our country have long ſeen and deſired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correſpondent executive and judicial authorities, ſhould be fully and effectually veſted in the general government of the union: But the impropriety of delegating ſuch extenſive truſt to one body of men is evident—Hence reſults the neceſſity of a different organization.

It is obviouſly impracticable in the fœderal government of theſe ſtates, to ſecure all rights of independent ſovereignty to each, and yet provide for the intereſt and ſafety of all.—Individuals entering into ſociety muſt give up a ſhare of liberty, to preſerve the reſt. The magnitude of the ſacrifice muſt depend as well on ſituation and circumſtance, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with preciſion the line between thoſe rights which muſt be ſurrendered, and thoſe which may be reſerved; and on the preſent occaſion this difficulty was encreaſed by a difference among the ſeveral ſtates, as to their ſituation, extent, habits, and particular intereſts.

In all our deliberations on this ſubject we kept ſteadily in our view, that which appears to us the greateſt intereſt of every true *American*, the conſolidation of our union, in which is involved our proſperity, felicity, ſafety, perhaps our national exiſtence. This important conſideration, ſeriouſly and deeply impreſſed on our minds, led each ſtate in the Convention to be leſs rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwiſe expected; and thus the Conſtitution, which we now preſent, is the reſult of a ſpirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and conceſſion, which the peculiarity of our political ſituation rendered indiſpenſable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every ſtate is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtleſs conſider, that had her intereſts been alone conſulted, the conſequences might have been particularly diſagreeable or injurious to others; that it is liable to as few exceptions as could reaſonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it may promote the laſting welfare of that country ſo dear to us all, and ſecure her freedom and happineſs, is our moſt ardent wiſh. With great reſpect, we have the honor to be, *SIR*,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient and humble Servants.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident.*

By unanimous Order of the Convention.

His Excellency the Preſident of Congreſs.

THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

FRIDAY, *September 28th*, 1787.

PRESENT——*New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina* and *Georgia*, and from *Maryland*, Mr. *Roſs*.

CONGRESS having received the Report of the Convention lately aſſembled in *Philadelphia*,

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the ſaid report, with the reſolutions and letter accompanying the ſame, be tranſmitted to the ſeveral legiſlatures, in order to be ſubmitted to a convention of delegates, choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, in conformity to the reſolves of the convention, made and provided in that caſe.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*additional Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for the regulation of the "militia of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſociety for propagating the goſpel among the Hea*-"*then, formed by members of the Epiſcopal Church of the* United Brethren, "*or* Unitas Fratrum," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to* "*an act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut "Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for* "*other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying *Standing Stone* creek may be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jonas Philips* was read, praying he may be authoriſed to ſell goods by public auction, or appointed city auctioneer, for which he offers an annual ſum of one thouſand dollars, excluſive of the ſtate duties; and ſtating, that he is ready to lay before a committee of this Houſe a ſcheme of a lottery, which he, upon calculation, finds will produce fifty-four thouſand dollars within one year.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “*A Supplement to an Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;” and in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell*,

To inſert the following clauſe, immediately after the ſeventh ſection, *viz.*

“And whereas doubts have ariſen with reſpect to the true intent and meaning of the term “*acquired*,” in the act to which this is a ſupplement: Be it therefore enacted and declared by the authority aforeſaid, That none but ſuch perſon or perſons as have made a real ſettlement at or before the decree of *Trenton*, or the legal repreſentatives of ſuch perſon or perſons, ſhall be eſteemed or judged to have acquired any title under the aforeſaid act; and that an actual ſettlement or occupancy, made previous to the decree at *Trenton*, ſhall enable ſuch perſon or perſons ſo claiming to enjoy a tract of land, not exceeding three hundred acres, and the allowance of *ſix per centum* for roads.”

On the queſtion,—“*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid additional clauſe?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Peters*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
3 *John Chapman*,
4 *Valentine Upp*,
5 *Robert Ralſton*,
6 *James Moore*,
7 *Alexander Lowrey*,
8 *Adam Hubley*,
9 *James Clemſon*,
10 *Jacob Erb*,
11 *John Hopkins*,
12 *William Mitchell*,
13 *Joſeph Lilley*,
14 *Joſeph Reed*,
15 *Thomas Clingan*,
16 *David Mitchell*,
17 *Thomas Beale*,
18 *Thomas Kennedy*,
19 *John Oliver*,
20 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
21 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
22 *David Davis*,
23 *Joſeph Sands*,

YEAS.

24 *Philip Kreemer*,
25 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
26 *Peter Burkhalter*,
27 *John Piper*,
28 *John White*,
29 *William Findley*,
30 *James Barr*,
31 *John Irvine*,
32 *John M‘Dowell*,
33 *James Alliſon*,
34 *Alexander Wright*,
35 *John Flenniken*,
36 *Theophilus Philips*,
37 *John Gilchreeſt*,
38 *James M‘Lene*,
39 *James M‘Calmont*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *Robert Lollar*,
42 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
43 *Peter Richards*,
44 *Jacob Miley*,
45 *Robert Clark*,
46 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*

NAYS.

9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Richard Willing,*
12 *Townſend Whelen,*
13 *Joſeph Work,*
14 *David M'Clellan,*
15 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 23, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petition of *Mary Bioren,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement* "*to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain per- " ſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the " county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

Mr. *Fitzſimons* then preſented to the chair a petition from divers owners of land within the county of *Luzerne,* as well as a letter from *Timothy Pickering,* Eſquire, one of the commiſſioners appointed under the aforeſaid act, which were read. Whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill, in order to direct the ſaid commiſſioners to appear at the bar of this Houſe, for the purpoſe of ſtating the ſituation of affairs in that county.

And the queſtion being taken thereon,

It was carried in the affirmative.

The ſaid commiſſioners then appearing at the bar, ſeverally declared their opinions reſpecting the ſituation of affairs in the county of *Luzerne,* and anſwered to ſuch queſtions as were aſked of them. Whereupon

Ordered, That they have leave to withdraw.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 24, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying that certificates for debts due from this ſtate may be received in diſcharge of mortgages given for money received from the loan-office.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

A letter from his Excellency the Governor of the ſtate of *Virginia* was read, incloſing the following reſolutions of the legiſlature of that ſtate, *viz.*

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

THURSDAY, the 25th of *October*, 1787.

Reſolved unanimouſly,

THAT the proceedings of the Fœderal Convention, tranſmitted to the General Aſſembly through the medium of Congreſs, be ſubmitted to a Convention of the people, for their full and free inveſtigation, diſcuſſion and deciſion.

Reſolved, That every citizen, being a freeholder in this commonwealth, be eligible to a ſeat in the Convention, and that the people therefore ought not to be reſtrained in their choice of Delegates by any other of thoſe legal or conſtitutional reſtrictions, which confine them in their choice of members to the Legiſlature.

Reſolved, That it be recommended to each county to elect two Delegates, and to each city, town or corporation, entitled, or which may be entitled by law, to repreſentation in the Legiſlature, to elect one Delegate to the ſaid Convention.

Reſolved, That the qualifications of the electors be the ſame with thoſe now eſtabliſhed by law for the choice of repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That the elections for Delegates as aforeſaid be held at the ſeveral places appointed by law for holding the election for Delegates to the General Aſſembly, and that the ſame be conducted by the officers who conduct the elections for Delegates, and conformably to the rules and regulations thereof.

Reſolved, That the election for Delegates ſhall be held in the month of *March* next, on the firſt day of the court to be held for each county, city or corporation, reſpectively, and that the perſons ſo choſen ſhall aſſemble at the State-Houſe in the city of *Richmond,* on the firſt *Monday* in *June* next.

Reſolved, That two thouſand copies of theſe reſolutions be forthwith printed, and diſperſed by the members of the General Aſſembly among their conſtituents, and that the Executive tranſmit a copy of them to Congreſs, and to the Legiſlatures and Executives of the reſpective ſtates.

Teſte, *JOHN BECKLEY,* C. H. D.

1787, *October* 31ſt, Agreed to by the Senate,

H. BROOKE, C. S.

A memorial from Colonel *Francis Mentges* was read, ſtating, that in conſequence of his appointment as Inſpector-General of the militia of this commonwealth by the Supreme Executive Council, he incurred conſiderable expence, for which he hath not received any compenſation, and requeſting ſuch recompence may be granted, as will enable him farther to purſue the duties of his appointment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to increaſe the duties of exciſe upon wine, and upon rum, brandy and other* "*ſpirits,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supple*"*ment to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to cer" tain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed with" in the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;" and in debating the ninth ſection of the ſaid bill,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Peters*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration thereof, in order to reconſider the additional clauſe propoſed yeſterday by Mr. *Findley*, and adopted by the Houſe.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*

YEAS.

15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Willing,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *David M'Clellan,*
22 *Thomas Clingan,*
23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Peter Burkhalter,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Robert Lollar,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *James Moore,*
2 *Alexander Lowrey,*
3 *James Clemſon,*
4 *Jacob Erb,*
5 *John Hopkins,*
5 *William Mitchell,*
7 *Joſeph Lilley,*
8 *Joſeph Reed,*
9 *David Mitchell,*
10 *Thomas Beale,*
11 *John Oliver,*
12 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
13 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Joſeph Sands,*
16 *Philip Kreemer,*
17 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

18 *John White,*
19 *William Findley,*
20 *James Barr,*
21 *John Irvine,*
22 *John M'Dowell,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Alexander Wright,*
25 *John Flenniken,*
26 *Theophilus Philips,*
27 *John Gilchreeſt,*
28 *James M'Lene,*
29 *James M'Calmont,*
30 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
31 *Jacob Miley,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

To poſtpone the ſaid ninth ſection, in order to introduce an additional clauſe, to precede the ſame in the ſaid bill.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And the additional clauſe being read in the words following, *viz.*

" And whereas it hath become expedient to quiet in their poſſeſſions, not " only thoſe who were actual ſettlers upon lands in the county of *Luzerne* " aforeſaid before the time of the decree of the court of *Trenton*, but that ſuch " alſo as have at any time ſince ſeated themſelves upon lands and improved " the ſame, and are now reſident thereupon, ſhould, upon their taking the " oath of allegiance and renunciation herein before preſcribed, and demean- " ing themſelves as good citizens, have the lands upon which they have ſo " improved and become reſident ſecured to them in like manner: Therefore be " it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That all and every perſon ac- " tually reſident within the ſaid county of *Luzerne* at the time of paſſing this " act, who is ſeated upon lands improved and held by him, and upon which " he hath erected a dwelling-houſe, ſhall have, and he is hereby declared to " have, the ſame confirmed to him, his heirs and aſſigns for ever, ſubject to the " like limitation for making their reſpective claims as is herein after provided. " And the commiſſioners who are or may be appointed to receive claims " ſhall in like manner proceed to receive, enquire into, examine witneſſes on " oath, and determine upon every ſuch claim, cauſe the ſame to be ſurveyed, " at the expence of the party, within ſome one of the eighteen towns, and in " ſuch manner as the ſaid half ſhares have been already ſurveyed and allotted; " provided that it do not exceed   acres to each lot or half " ſhare. And the return of the ſame ſhall be made to the Supreme Execu- " tive Council, who ſhall grant patents therefor, in like manner as is directed " by the act to which this is a ſupplement: Provided always, That no perſon " ſo occupying and claiming ſhall receive any benefit from this act, unleſs he " take and ſubſcribe the oaths herein before directed within the time preſcribed.

It was, on motion of Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The ninth ſection being then again under debate,

A motion was made by Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

To ſtrike out the remainder of the ſaid ſection, after the words, " *quality* " *and value*," and in lieu thereof to inſert the words,

" And it is hereby declared and enacted, That this Houſe ſhall and do " pledge the faith of the ſtate to provide funds, ſo ſoon as the ſaid valuation " and appraiſement ſhall be made and communicated to this Houſe, for the " payment or ſatisfaction of the ſaid claimants, in ſuch mode as ſhall be con- " ſiſtent with the juſtice due to the citizens of the ſtate, whoſe property is, " may or ſhall be affected by this act, or by the act to which this is a ſup- " plement."

And after ſome debate thereon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*,

Ordered, That the ſaid clauſe and amendment be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, November 26, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *William Moore*, Eſquire, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 27th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Johnſton*, late a ſoldier in the army of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given him teſtifying his ſervices during the war, whereby he is precluded from receiving his pay and other dues, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others.

A petition from *Moſes Read* was read, ſetting forth, that *John Piper*, Eſq; depoſited with him a ſum of continental money, for the purpoſe of engaging cattle for the uſe of the army of the United States; that he procured twenty-five head of cattle, which, with his own expences, amounted to about *one hundred pounds* more than he received; that he has repeatedly applied to the Comptroller-General and others for a ſettlement of his accounts, without effect; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *A* " *Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the due collection and " payment of taxes within this commonwealth," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to encreaſe the duties of exciſe upon wine, and* " *upon rum, brandy and other ſpirits*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled " *An additional Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act " for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce " the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorparate the ſociety for propagating the* " *goſpel among the heathen, formed by members of the Epiſcopal church of the* " United Brethren, *or* Unitas Fratrum," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Taylor*, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 28th, 1785, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers citizens of *Pennſylvania* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing the officers of the land-office to transfer warrants for lands from one county to another, or to return the monies paid on ſuch warrants where no land is found, and that the Receiver-General may be empowered to transfer the monies overpaid on the account of one tract of land, to the credit of another which may happen to be deficient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *November* 21ſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To reſume the further conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain per-" ſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed within the " county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," in order to re-conſider the additional clauſe propoſed by Mr. *Findley*, and adopted by the Houſe on *Thurſday* laſt.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 28, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Patrick Sullivan*, late a ſoldier in the ſecond regiment of the line of this ſtate, in the ſervice of the United States, was read, praying he may be entitled to his proportion of the donation lands allotted to the officers and ſoldiers of the ſaid line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Thomas Johnſton*, *November* 26th, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 19th, on the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Wayne* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Cumberland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe having reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An* " *Additional Supplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the com-* " *monwealth of* Pennſylvania," It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Will*,

To inſert the following paragraphs, *viz.*

" And whereas ſeveral of the freemen of the city of *Philadelphia*, with a view to render themſelves as uſeful to their country in the character of militia as poſſible, have voluntarily aſſociated and formed themſelves into a troop of light dragoons, and are deſirous of being authoriſed and eſtabliſhed as ſuch by law: Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That in addition to the troop of militia light dragoons for the ſaid city, already formed under the laws of this commonwealth, there ſhall be one other troop of light dragoons for the ſaid city, formed by volunteer aſſociation of the freemen of the ſaid city (including thoſe perſons who have already voluntarily aſſociated and formed themſelves as aforeſaid) to conſiſt of one captain, one firſt lieutenant, one ſecond lieutenant, one cornet, four ſergeants, four corporals, one farrier, one trumpeter, and ſixty-eight privates, which ſaid additional troop ſhall be under the like rules and regulations with the other militia troops of light dragoons within this commonwealth; and the officers of the ſaid corps ſhall be accordingly, and in like manner, commiſſioned by the Supreme Executive Council."

" And whereas ſome of the militia of this ſtate have voluntarily formed themſelves into companies of light-armed-infantry, and have attached themſelves to the battalions from which they have been reſpectively formed: Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That whenever a ſufficient number of volunteers from any battalion ſhall offer to form a company of light infantry, and will clothe themſelves in ſuitable uniform, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch company to elect by ballot their officers, viz. one captain, one firſt lieutenant, and one ſecond lieutenant; and that the non-commiſſioned officers be appointed as is by law directed for other companies of militia; and that ſuch companies reſpectively be attached to the battalions from which they ſhall be formed; and be ſubject to the rules and regulations formed for the government of the militia; provided, that the volunteers already aſſociated be admitted as a part of ſuch companies."

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Will*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,

YEAS.

15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *James Clemſon*,
23 *Jacob Erb*,
24 *John Hopkins*,
25 *David M'Clellan*,
26 *Joſeph Lilley*,
27 *Thomas Clingan*,
28 *David Mitchell*,

YEAS.

29 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
30 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
31 *Philip Kreemer,*
32 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
33 *Peter Burkhalter,*
34 *John Piper,*
35 *John White,*
36 *John Irvine,*
37 *Alexander Wright,*
38 *John Gilchreeſt,*
39 *James M‘Calmont,*
40 *Jacob Reiff,*
41 *Robert Lollar,*
42 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
43 *Robert Clark,*
44 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *William Mitchell,*
3 *Joſeph Reed,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *John Oliver,*
6 *David Davis,*
7 *Joſeph Sands,*
8 *James Barr,*
9 *John M‘Dowell,*
10 *James Alliſon,*
11 *Theophilus Philips,*
12 *James M‘Lene,*
13 *Jacob Miley,*
14 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill, together with the ſeveral additional clauſes, having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee to whom were referred, *November* 24th, the additional clauſe propoſed by Mr. *Findley*, and the ninth ſection of the bill, entituled “ *A* “ *Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act for aſcertaining and confirming “ to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed “ within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,” together with the amendment propoſed by Mr. *Peters,* made report. Whereupon

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the ſaid bill, and having fully debated the aforeſaid clauſe of Mr. *Findley*'s, *viz.*

“ And whereas it hath become expedient to quiet in their poſſeſſions, not “ only thoſe who were actual ſettlers upon lands in the county of *Luzerne* “ aforeſaid before the time of the decree of the court of *Trenton,* but that ſuch “ alſo as have at any time ſince ſeated themſelves upon lands and improved “ the ſame, and are now reſident thereupon, ſhould, upon their taking the “ oath of allegiance and renunciation herein before preſcribed, and demean- “ ing themſelves as good citizens, have the lands upon which they have ſo “ improved and become reſident ſecured to them in like manner: Therefore be “ it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That all and every perſon ac- “ tually reſident within the ſaid county of *Luzerne* at the time of paſſing this “ act, who is ſeated upon lands improved and held by him, and upon which “ he hath erected a dwelling-houſe, ſhall have, and he is hereby declared to “ have, the ſame confirmed to him, his heirs and aſſigns for ever, ſubject to the “ like limitation for making their reſpective claims as is herein after provided. “ And the commiſſioners who are or may be appointed to receive claims “ ſhall in like manner proceed to receive, enquire into, examine witneſſes on “ oath, and determine upon every ſuch claim, cauſe the ſame to be ſurveyed,

“ at the expence of the party, within ſome one of the eighteen towns, and in
“ ſuch manner as the ſaid half ſhares have been already ſurveyed and allotted;
“ provided that it do not exceed   acres to each lot or half
“ ſhare. And the return of the ſame ſhall be made to the Supreme Execu-
“ tive Council, who ſhall grant patents therefor, in like manner as is directed
“ by the act to which this is a ſupplement: Provided always, That no perſon
“ ſo occupying and claiming ſhall receive any benefit from this act, unleſs he
“ take and ſubſcribe the oaths herein before directed within the time pre-
“ ſcribed.”

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Findley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Robert Ralſton*,
3 *James Moore*,
4 *William Mitchell*,
5 *Joſeph Reed*,
6 *John Piper*,
7 *William Findley*,
8 *James Barr*,
9 *John M‘Dowell*,

YEAS.

10 *James Alliſon*,
11 *Alexander Wright*,
12 *John Flenniken*,
13 *Theophilus Philips*,
14 *John Gilchreeſt*,
15 *James M‘Lene*,
16 *James M‘Calmont*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Will*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Samuel Foulke*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *Samuel Evans*,
15 *Richard Willing*,
16 *Townſend Whelen*,
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Adam Hubley*,
19 *Joſeph Work*,
20 *James Clemſon*,
21 *Jacob Erb*,

NAYS.

22 *John Hopkins*,
23 *David M‘Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Thomas Clingan*,
26 *David Mitchell*,
27 *Thomas Beale*,
28 *John Oliver*,
29 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
30 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
31 *David Davis*,
32 *Joſeph Sands*,
33 *Philip Kreemer*,
34 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
35 *Peter Burkhalter*,
36 *John White*,
37 *John Irvine*,
38 *Jacob Reiff*,
39 *Robert Lollar*,
40 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
41 *Robert Clark*,
42 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to veſt* "*in* Richard Wells *and* John Clifford, *the ſhare or portion of the ſhip* Anna, "*lately forfeited to the ſtate.*"

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe debate the ſame by paragraphs?*"—It was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to veſt in the Supreme Executive Council of* "*this ſtate a power to reveſt or remit, either in the whole or in part, any for-* "*feiture or forfeitures accrued to the ſtate under the laws for the regulation of* "*trade,*" was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Lewis*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 29, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,* in the words following, *viz.*

"*Reſolved,* That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby "authoriſed and requeſted to iſſue a grant or grants in favour of ſuch *Penn-* "*ſylvania Claimants,* who have or may be diveſted of their lands in the county "of *Luzerne,* by the operation of an act, entituled "*A Supplement to an act,* "entituled "An act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called "*Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Lu-* "*zerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," which grant or grants "ſhall give ſuch claimant or claimants a right to take up and ſettle upon a "quantity of land, in any part of the reſidue of the donation lands not al- "ready appropriated, provided the quantity of lands ſo granted do not ex- "ceed the quantity of land of which ſuch perſon or perſons have been or may "be diveſted as aforeſaid; which land, ſo granted and accepted of, ſhall be "conſidered as a compenſation to ſuch perſon or perſons, either in whole or "in part, as ſhall hereafter be determined."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene,* and Mr. *Peters,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Richard Peters,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *Townſend Whelen,*
4 *William Mitchell,*
5 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
6 *David Davis,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *John White,*
10 *William Findley,*

YEAS.

11 *James Barr,*
12 *John Irwin,*
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *James Alliſon,*
15 *Alexander Wright,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *James M'Lene,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
20 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Willing,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*

NAYS.

20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *David M‘Clellan,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *David Mitchell,*
27 *Thomas Beale,*
28 *John Oliver,*
29 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
30 *Joſeph Sands,*
31 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
32 *Peter Burkhalter,*
33 *John Flenniken,*
34 *John Gilchreeſt,*
35 *Robert Lollar,*
36 *Jacob Reiff,*
37 *Robert Clark,*
38 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Calmont,* in the words following, *viz.*

“ *Reſolved,* That it is the opinion of this Houſe, that all proceedings of
“ the commiſſioners appointed to carry into effect the act, entituled “ *An Act*
“ *for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants,
“ *the lands by them claimed in the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes*
“ *therein mentioned,*” ſhall ceaſe and determine, until this Houſe ſhall take
“ further order therein.”

The previous queſtion was then called by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Evans, viz.*

“ *Shall the main queſtion be now put?*”

And carried in the negative.

Mr. *Lollar,* appointed to collect the fines from abſent members, preſented to the chair a receipt from the Treaſurer of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for *ſix pounds twelve ſhillings* and *ſix-pence,* being the amount of fines by him collected this preſent ſeſſion.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington* and *Fayette,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *Thomas Johnſton,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of claims, to whom was referred the petition of *Thomas Johnſton,* a negroe, formerly a ſoldier in the *American* army, have examined his claim, and are clearly of opinion that the Houſe of Aſſembly cannot grant him the relief he prays for:

Therefore, all your committee can do is, to recommend him as a proper object of charity, on account of his poverty and old age.

The report of the committee, read *November* 23d, on the petition of *Mary Bioren*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Mary Bioren* have leave to withdraw her petition.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, have leave to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, for the purpoſe of confirming to them their tenths or manors, and private eſtates, and for explaining an act, entituled "*An Act for veſting the eſtates of the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *in this* "*commonwealth*," ſo far as concerns their ſaid tenths or manors, and private eſtates.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report,——

That there is due to *Hall* and *Sellers*, per account, for printing the minutes of the eleventh General Aſſembly, ſixty-two ſheets and an half, and other printing per order of the Legiſlature, *two hundred and twenty-nine pounds and ten-pence.*

To *Nicholas Weaver*, for ſundries, during his being in office as Serjeant at Arms, *three pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence.*

To *James Pearſon*, for ſundry repairs made on the State-Houſe, per order of the General Aſſembly, *thirty-eight pounds twelve ſhillings and eight-pence.*

To *William Spotſwood*, for the *Pennſylvania Herald*, from *September* 1786, to *September* 1787, *ten pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *Michael Billmeyer*, for printing the *German* minutes of the laſt ſeſſion of the General Aſſembly, and printing the Fœderal Conſtitution, *fifty-four pounds.*

To *Thomas Bradford*, for printing the laws, and publiſhing the bills for conſideration, *one hundred and eighty-five pounds thirteen ſhillings.*

To *Francis Bailey*, for ſix copies of the *Freeman*'s *Journal* from *January* 1787, until the end of the year, *ſix pounds.*

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, for *one hundred and fifty pounds*, on account.

In favor of *Nicholas Weaver*, for *three pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *James Pearſon*, for *thirty-eight pounds twelve ſhillings and eight-pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *William Spotſwood*, for *ten pounds ten ſhillings*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, for *fifty pounds*, on account.

In favor of *Thomas Bradford*, for *one hundred and eighty-five pounds thirteen ſhillings*, in full.

In favor of *Francis Bailey*, for *ſix pounds*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for *fifty-nine pounds*, for his ſervices as Clerk of this Houſe, including twenty days for compleating the buſineſs.

In favor of *Jacob Shallus*, for *fifty-nine pounds*, for his ſervices as Aſſiſtant-Clerk to this Houſe, including twenty days allowance for compleating the buſineſs.

In favor of *James Martin*, for *twenty-four pounds ten ſhillings*, including ten days allowance, for his ſervice as Serjeant-at-Arms to the General Aſſembly.

In favor of *Joſeph Fry*, for *twenty-four pounds ten ſhillings*, including ten days allowance, for his ſervice as Door-keeper to this Houſe.

In favor of *Thomas Lloyd*, for ſix volumes of the debates, at *eleven ſhillings and eight-pence, three pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds*, to enable him to pay the contingent expences of this Houſe, for which he is to account with the Comptroller-General.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws, reported that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to provide for the wages of Members of the State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame.*

II. *An* ACT *for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection of the weſtern frontiers, and other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

III. *An* ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting " and opening a loan-office, for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds.*"

Which Laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

The Houſe then adjourned until the Third *Tueſday* in *February* next.

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Clerk*
of the General Aſſembly.

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND SESSION
OF THE TWELFTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at *Philadelphia*, on *Tueſday*, the Nineteenth day of *February*, in the year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight.

Tueſday, *February* 19, 1788. P. M.

MR. Speaker with a number of members met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *February* 20, 1788. P. M.

Mr. Speaker with a number of members met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 21, 1788. A. M.

A quorum of repreſentatives met.

Michael Schmyſer, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *W. Mitchell* and Mr. *Lilly* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

A memorial from the Honorable *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The Memorial of JOHN PENN, the younger, and JOHN PENN, the elder, of the county of *Philadelphia*,

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT your memorialiſts, being ſeiſed of divers meſſuages, lands and tenements, within this ſtate, as tenants in common, are deſirous that the ſame ſhould be divided between them, according to their reſpective proportions; that in purſuance of ſuch deſire, a writ of partition has been duly iſſued and executed between them for certain lands and tenements in the county and city of *Philadelphia*, and a judgment thereupon obtained in the ſupreme court of this commonwealth, that the ſaid partition ſhould remain firm and ſtable for ever, ſince which a doubt has been ſuggeſted whether ſuch partition is good by the laws of this ſtate; and as they are very deſirous, not only that they, but all others who may ſucceed to any part of the inheritance, ſhould be bound thereby and rendered mutually ſafe, they pray that this Honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to give them leave to bring a bill in, to be enacted into a law, to declare the ſaid partition already executed, and ſuch others as ſhall hereafter be executed between them, to be valid. And the memorialiſts, *&c.*

JOHN PENN, *junior*,
JOHN PENN.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *John Tom* and *Michael Marks*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaols of the counties of *Franklin* and *Northampton*, were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, commonly called *Connecticut Claimants*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and " confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by " them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein " mentioned," and praying a further time may be granted them to exhibit their claims to the commiſſioners appointed in virtue of the act, entituled " *An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut " Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for* " *other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed this morning, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported, that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council were preparing buſineſs, which they would lay before the Houſe.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of the ſaid county,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 22, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE ſincerely congratulate your Honorable Houſe on the ratification of the Fœderal Conſtitution by the Convention of this ſtate ſince your laſt receſs, and we flatter ourſelves that its adoption will be attended with important good conſequences to all the ſtates in the Union. 57

In compliance with your reſolution of the 13th of *November* laſt, we have obtained, and now lay before the General Aſſembly, deſcriptions of the lands lying between the northern boundary of this ſtate and Lake *Erie,* with an eſtimate of the ſums which will probably be neceſſary for the purchaſes of the ſame, as will appear by the papers marked No. 1 and 2, to which we beg leave to refer. We have likewiſe wrote to our Delegates in Congreſs relative to the eſtimate. Their anſwer, as ſoon as it comes to hand, will be tranſmitted to your Houſe.

A revenue law of this ſtate, paſſed the 25th day of *September,* 1783, requiring merchants who re-ſhip goods from *Philadelphia* to produce within one year certificates of the goods being actually landed at the port of deſtination, appears to bear hard on the trade of this port. We therefore recommend a reviſal of the aforeſaid revenue act, when the merchants will have an opportunity of laying the particular inconveniences before your Houſe.

The officers of the Land-Office do not conſider themſelves authorized by the preſent laws to grant re-locating warrants, in caſes where warrants, on which the purchaſe money has been paid, are deprived of land by prior grants: We are of opinion that this power ought to be given, as the time may come, when vacant lands will not remain for them, and in that caſe the owners may call on the ſtate for compenſation.

The granting of lands in the late purchaſe has nearly ceaſed, and we are apprehenſive that this fund will continue unproductive, until the terms of the new purchaſe are lowered—a meaſure which we therefore recommend.

Great miſtakes have been committed by the Orphans Courts of the different counties of this ſtate, reſpecting penſions; particularly in providing for the ſupport of the widows and orphans of militia-men who fell in the late war.—This power, in the opinion of Council, ought to be lodged in more proper hands, and its deciſions thereby rendered more uniform.

The continued depreciation of our paper money merits the moſt ſerious attention of your Honorable Houſe.—This circumſtance alone diffuſes languor and embarraſſment through the whole executive department of government.—Contracts cannot be compleated for the making of roads, or any other public buſineſs, without either riſquing the honor of government, or acting on an implied depreciation of money; ſituations equally irkſome and ineligible. We cannot help ſuggeſting the propriety of more ſpeedily deſtroying as much of it as is in the power of the treaſury.

The time limited by law for compleating titles for lands held under office rights, obtained before the 10th day of *December*, 1776, expires on the 10th day of *April* next. We are of opinion that the extenſion of that period is neceſſary.

The benefits expected from the penal law having not equaled the benevolent wiſhes of its friends and framers, we recommend ſuch alterations to be made in it as ſhall be calculated to render puniſhment a means of reformation, and the labour of criminals of profit to the ſtate. Late experiments in *Europe* have demonſtrated that thoſe advantages are only to be obtained by temperance, and ſolitude with labour.

The act, entituled "*An Act appointing Wardens for the port of* Philadel-"phia, &c." paſſed the 26th day of *February*, 1773, having by experience been found uſeful, and being on the point of expiring, we recommend an immediate renewal of the ſame for a further term, with ſuch improvements as may occur to you.

We again recommend to the notice of your Honorable Houſe the reſolution of Congreſs, paſſed *March* 21ſt, 1787, and beg leave to ſuggeſt the propriety of paſſing a declaratory act, to anſwer the end intended by the ſaid reſolution.

The lateſt accounts from the county of *Luzerne*, communicated to us by Colonel *Pickering*, repreſent the ſettlement as being in perfect quietneſs at preſent, and that the laws of this ſtate have their free operation.

We have now the pleaſure of laying before you a map of the northern boundary of this ſtate, as run by the commiſſioners appointed for that purpoſe, who have compleated that uſeful work. We alſo herewith communicate a letter from his Excellency *Samuel Huntington*, Eſquire, Governor of the ſtate of *Connecticut*, in conſequence of which we have mitigated the ſeverity of *John Franklin*'s confinement as much as circumſtances would warrant—An act of the legiſlature of *Virginia*, concerning the Convention to be held in *June* next, tranſmitted by his Excellency the Governor of *Virginia*—And a letter from the Honorable *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire,—which we beg leave to recommend to the notice of your Honorable Houſe.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, February 21, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Findley*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A letter from *Elias Boys* to the Speaker, in behalf of the wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating, that the act for appointing wardens for the port of *Philadelphia*, *&c.* paſſed *February* 26th, 1773, will ſhortly expire by its own limitation, and ſuggeſting the propriety of reviſing the ſaid act, or enacting ſuch other as may have a tendency to ſecure the navigation, and promote the intereſts of the trading part of the community.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Parker*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the owners and occupiers of land within the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled " *An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to regu-" late the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out " new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants; " and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of " the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk," ſo far as the ſame authoriſes a road to be opened and kept in repair from the diſtrict of *Southwark* to the lower ferry on *Schuylkill*, commonly called *Gray's Ferry*; and praying ſo much of the ſaid act may be repealed, or the operation thereof ſuſpended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſters and others of the Roman Catholic congregation in *Philadelphia* was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of their petition.

The memorial of the honorable *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, commonly called *Connecticut Claimants*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian congrega-" tion of the* Big-Spring, *in* Newton *townſhip*, *in* Cumberland *county*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday,

Saturday, February 23, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Franklin* were read, praying a further time may be granted them to pay for their unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the fifth election diſtrict in the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the lines of the ſaid diſtrict may be altered, and that they may be authoriſed to hold their elections at the houſe of *Elizabeth M'Candleſs.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Franklin*, a priſoner, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia* on a proſecution for miſpriſion of treaſon, was read, ſtating his diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying that he may be liberated from his confinement, upon giving ſufficient bail to abide his trial.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Fry*, door-keeper of this Houſe, was read, ſetting forth, that he ſtands charged by the Comptroller-General in the ſum of *one hundred and ninety-five pounds*, as houſe-rent for the rooms by him occupied in the weſtern wing of the ſtate-houſe, ſtating the uſage in the times of the door-keepers his predeceſſors, and praying that he may be exonerated from the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſtating their inability to pay the fines for non-attendance on days of appointment for training the militia of this ſtate, and praying a further time may be limited for the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the religious ſociety called Quakers was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

The ADDRESS and PETITION of the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY called QUAKERS,

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT incited by an apprehenſion of real duty, and encouraged by the laudable eſſay which has been made by the legiſlature of this ſtate for the promotion of perſonal freedom, we take the liberty of addreſſing you on this very intereſting and important ſubject.

The natural rights and civil liberties of men have been ſo fully inveſtigated and declared, and at this time are ſo generally acknowledged to be unalienable, we conceive it unneceſſary to attempt to illuſtrate the bleſſing of the enjoyment thereof, or the grievous oppreſſion and diſtreſs to which they are ſubjected who continue to be deprived of that valuable privilege.

The law, entituled "*An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery,*" paſſed in the year 1780, has anſwered ſome of the deſirable purpoſes for which it was enacted, and we truſt, that an impreſſion of the ſame affecting conſiderations which produced that law, will be of ſufficient weight to induce you to render it more extenſive and effectual. Having been informed, and we believe it to be a ſorrowful truth, that ſome commercial perſons, inattentive to the feelings of humanity, and regardleſs of the principles of juſtice, have, in oppoſition to the ſpirit and intention of that law, equiped ſhips in the port of *Philadelphia* for the iniquitous traffic to *Africa* for ſlaves, and others, actuated by the like avaricious motive, have uſed means of violence and craft to captivate divers of the poor Blacks, who were legally entitled to freedom, and tranſported them from hence to the *Weſt-India* iſlands and other parts, where they have been ſold into unconditional ſlavery.—" The condition of others of theſe oppreſſed " people has been attended with circumſtances, which not only deprived them " of the common bleſſings that they were by nature entitled to, but has caſt " them into the deepeſt afflictions, by an unnatural ſeparation and ſale of huſband and wife from each other, and from their children." Which barbarities have been committed by men aſſuming the Chriſtian name, to the great reproach of that dignified character.

We therefore earneſtly requeſt you will be pleaſed to take theſe afflicting caſes into mature conſideration, and provide a remedy for their diſcontinuance, by ſuch ſupplementary amendments and additions to the act beforementioned, as ſhall be moſt effectual to reſtrain the hands of tyranny and oppreſſion, that you may be the happy inſtruments to deliver the poor that cry, and the fatherleſs, and him that hath none to help, ſo that the bleſſing promiſed to the merciful may reſt upon you.

Signed, on behalf and by direction of a meeting of the repreſentatives of our religious ſociety, held in Philadelphia, *the ſeventeenth day of the Firſt Month, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight.*

JOHN DRINKER, Clerk.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 90 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petitions preſented to this and former Houſes of Aſſembly, for erecting parts of the counties of *Weſtmoreland*, *Waſhington* and *Fayette* into a ſeparate county, and eſtabliſhing the ſeat of juſtice for the ſame at the town of *Pittſburg*; and ſuggeſting the propriety, in caſe it ſhould be deemed expedient to erect a new county, that the courts of juſtice may be eſtabliſhed at the mouth of *Beaver* creek, or at *Old-Logs-town*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Lurgan*, *Southampton*, and the adjacent parts of *Letterkenny*, in the county of *Franklin*, was read, praying to be erected into a ſeparate election diſtrict, and authoriſed to hold their election at the houſe of *Joſeph Findley*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to arrange and report on the meſſage from Council made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Irvine* and Mr. *Wright* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage relative to the purchaſe of lands lying between the northern boundary of this ſtate and Lake *Erie*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting a reviſal of the revenue law of 25th *September*, 1783.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *M'Calmont* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the reduction in the price of the public lands.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage relative to miſtakes made by the Orphans Courts in the granting of penſions.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the continued depreciation of the paper currency.

Ordered, That Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *White* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the extenſion of the time allowed for the completion of titles held under office rights.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage relative to the penal laws.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Will* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects a renewal of the act appointing Wardens to the port of *Philadelphia*, about to expire.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the declaratory act proper to be paſſed, in conformity to a reſolution of Congreſs of the 21ſt *March*, 1787.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kreemer* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage communicating the letter of the Governor of *Connecticut*, relative to the impriſonment of *John Franklin*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage communicating the letter of *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the powers proper to be given to the land-officers to grant re-locating warrants incerta in caſes; and they are inſtructed to report a bill accordingly.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for deſtroying the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted in purſuance of* " *an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the firſt day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hun-* " *dred and eighty, entituled* " An Act for funding and redeeming the bills of " credit of the United States of *America*, and for providing means to bring " the preſent war to a happy concluſion," which was read the firſt time, and Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the ſociety for propagating the* " *goſpel among the heathen, formed by members of the Epiſcopal church of the* " United Brethren *or* Unitas Fratrum," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for veſting the public ſtore and two lots of* " *ground in the borough and county of* Lancaſter *in the truſtees of* Franklin *Col-* " *lege, for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for raiſing " by way of lottery the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the

" public roads leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of " this ſtate, and towards improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to alter " and amend an act, entituled " *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral* " *acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of juſtices of the* " *peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch* " *elections; and to authoriſe the juſtices of the peace of the city of* Philadelphia " *to hold the courts of record of the ſaid city; and to make further proviſion for* " *the due election and return of juſtices of the peace elect;*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to* " *draw an order on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine " pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor of* Alexander M'Dowell," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, February 25, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Cornelius Vanhorn* and *Jacob Vanhorn* was read, ſetting forth, that they were diſpoſſeſſed of two tracts of land in the county of *Luzerne,* by perſons called *Connecticut Claimants,* which lands were afterwards confirmed to the ſaid Claimants by an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate, and praying they may be allowed a full and adequate compenſation therefor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Middle Octorara* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *An Act* " *to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *town*" *ſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

A petition from the miniſter and a number of the members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Middle Octorara* was read, praying the bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart " *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," may be paſſed into a law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from the Commiſſioners of the county of *Bucks* was read, referring to their memorial read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Wayne* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, praying a further time may be allowed them to pay for their unpatented lands; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *White,* to report thereon.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Franklin,* read *February* 23d, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton,* in the county of *Northampton,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of erecting the ſaid town into a borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants and land-holders of the *Northern Liberties,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying for leave to bring in a bill to empower them to erect a draw-bridge acroſs *Cohockſink* creek.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Fry,* read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *G. Heiſter,* to report thereon.

The petition of the Society of the people called Quakers, read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

The memorial of Colonel *Francis Mentges,* read *November* 24th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of the fifth election diſtrict in the county of *Waſhington,* read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Waſhington* county, with inſtructions to bring in a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

A member preſented to the chair tranſcripts of the aſſeſſments of taxes within the county of *Montgomery,* for the year 1787, which were

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 23d, on the letter from the Governor of *Connecticut,* tranſmitted with the meſſage from Council, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled, "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," poſtponed *November* 28th laſt.

Ordered, That it be re-committed, with the addition of Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *M'Lene.*

The bill, entituled "*An Act for deſtroying the bills of credit of this com-*" *monwealth, emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the*" *firſt day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entituled* " An Act" for funding and redeeming the bills of credit of the United States of *Ame-*" *rica,* and for providing means to bring the preſent war to a happy conclu-" ſion," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for re-" gulating the meaſurement of corn and ſalt imported into the port of *Phi-*" *ladelphia,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 26, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Moore,*

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General lay before this Houſe, an account of the additional duties impoſed by the acts of the 20th of *September* 1785 and the 15th of *March* 1787, ſo far as the ſame have been accounted for to him by the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia.*

A petition from *John Brown,* a collector of taxes, reſiding in the townſhip of *Weſt-town,* in the county of *Cheſter,* was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of a conſiderable ſum of money by him received in the payment of taxes, and praying the ſame may be placed to his credit in the ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying that *William Van Phul* and *Daniel Whitmer* may be entitled to the excluſive right of keeping and maintaining a ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna,* oppoſite the town of *Sunbury.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying that the county courts may be empowered to regulate ferries within their reſpective counties.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Mackey,* late a Captain in the 9th *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſtating his diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 1688 inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* of a ſimilar tenor with that of the religious ſociety of the people called Quakers, read yeſterday, were read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, ſetting forth, that they are oppreſſed by the owners and occupiers of mills in exacting an exorbitant toll, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, ſtating their diſtreſſes, occaſioned by the late war, and praying they may be exonerated from the payment of taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Michael Eberle* was read, referring to his petition read *September* 13th laſt, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of *Michael Marks*, *John Tom* and *James Parker*, read *February* 21ſt and 22d, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants and land-holders of the *Northern Liberties*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That they have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The petition of the inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton*, in the county of *Northampton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That they have leave to bring in a bill to erect the ſaid town into a borough.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the memorial of Colonel *Francis Mentges*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts made report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Robert Smith*, junior, for the ſum of *ſeven pounds ten ſhillings*, in full of his account.

The committee appointed *February* 23d, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the letter from Governor *St. Clair*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Joſeph Fry*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petitions for and againſt enacting the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle "Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the letter from Governor *Huntington*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from his Excellency *Samuel Huntington*, Eſquire, in behalf of *John Franklin*, now confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, beg leave to report the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to direct that the ſaid *John Franklin* be admitted to bail, on his leaving this ſtate.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the report?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer,*

Ordered, That *Friday,* the 7th day of *March* next, be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan* "*for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extre*"*mity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia;" and that it be the order for that day.

The committee to whom was re-committed, *November* 13th laſt, the bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues,*" reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 27, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1340 inhabitants of the ſouth and weſtern parts of the county of *Northampton,* and parts of the counties of *Bucks, Berks* and *Montgomery,* were read, praying to be erected into a ſeparate county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* was read, ſetting forth, that they will at their own expence erect or cauſe to be erected a court-houſe and priſon, within the boundaries of the new county prayed for in the above-mentioned petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Paſſyunk,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying that they may not be re-annexed to the city and liberties of *Philadelphia,* for the purpoſe of ſupporting their poor in common; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Newberry* townſhip, in the county of *York,* was read, praying to be annexed to the firſt diſtrict for holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Gordon* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath been attainted of high treaſon, and in conſequence thereof his eſtate became veſted in this commonwealth, and praying leave, for reaſons ſet forth in his petition, to bring in a bill to re-inveſt the ſame in him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 1726 inhabitants reſiding on the north ſide of *Tuſcarora* mountain, in the county of *Cumberland,* were read, praying that a ſeparate county may be erected, according to certain limits ſet forth in ſaid petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the Judges of the ſupreme court of this commonwealth was read, ſetting forth, that the conſtitution of *Pennſylvania* expreſly requires that the ſalaries of the Judges ſhould be fixed, and an act of the legiſlature, paſſed the 25th *March,* 1785, declares that thoſe ſalaries ſhall not be withdrawn, with-held or leſſened, on any pretence whatever; that ſince the emiſſion of paper money their ſalaries have been paid therewith, whereby they have ſuſtained very great loſs; and praying the premiſes may be taken into conſideration, and while they extend juſtice to them, to adopt, at the ſame time, ſome expedient to ſecure to the Judges in future that independence, which the principles of law and liberty pronounce they ought always to enjoy.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

For the purpoſe of ſecuring the public offices in the wings of the State-houſe from danger by fire, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petition of *William Mackey*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Michael Eberle*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Brown*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon*, read *November* 22d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Davis* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

A petition from *James Hanna* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for the county of *Bucks*, in the room of *Joſeph Hart*, Eſquire, deceaſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Joſeph Fry*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report of the committee on the letter from Governor *St. Clair*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report on the petition of Colonel *Francis Mentges*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for an allowance of   for ſervices rendered by Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Mentges*, in inſpecting the ſtate of the militia and of the public arms, under the orders of the Supreme Executive Council.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for building a draw-bridge acroſs* Cohockſinck *creek, in the* Northern Liberties *of the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian congregation of the* Big-Spring, *in* Newtown *townſhip, in* Cumberland *county.*

An ACT *for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots of ground in the borough and county of* Lancaſter *in the Truſtees of* Franklin *College, for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution.*

An ACT *to incorporate the ſociety for propagating the goſpel among the heathen, formed by members of the Epiſcopal church of the* United Brethren, *or* Unitas Fratrum.

An ACT *authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor of* Alexander M'Dowell.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act to alter and amend " an act, entituled " *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſem-* " *bly heretofore made for regulating the elections of juſtices of peace through-* " *out this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch elections;* " *and to authoriſe the juſtices of the peace of the city of* Philadelphia *to hold* " *the courts of record of the ſaid city, and to make further proviſion for the* " *due election and return of juſtices of peace elect.*"

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 28, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *Philadelphia, February* 28, 1788.

SIR,

BY the direction of Council, I do myſelf the honor to incloſe you a letter from his Excellency the Governor of *Maſſachuſetts,* together with a memorial from *D. Shutz.*

I have the honor to be,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
PETER MUHLENBERG.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

A memorial from the Wardens of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying to be heard by Council againſt the bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate* " *the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* " Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Phila " delphia;" and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the prayer thereof be granted, and that *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the purpoſe of hearing council on the ſaid ſubject.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of this ſtate were read, praying that ſuch heavy duties may be impoſed on foreign malt and barley, as may tend to a total prohibition of the importation thereof in future.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties* was read, remonſtrating againſt the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read *February* 21ſt inſtant, and praying the facts therein ſet forth may be left to the deciſion of the courts of law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt granting the prayer of the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read *November* 19th laſt, and praying to be heard by council at the bar of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 161 inhabitants of the *Dry Lands*, in the county of *Northampton*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read *November* 19th laſt, and praying that ſo much of the prayer of the ſaid memorial, as affects the poſſeſſions of the petitioners, may not be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Joſeph Erwin*, *Samuel Smith*, junior, and *William Linton*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks*, in the room of *Joſeph Hart*, Eſquire, deceaſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Foulke*,

Ordered, That *Friday*, the 7th day of *March* next, be aſſigned for the election of a regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks*.

The petition of *Samuel Eſſop*, read in the late Houſe *September* 11th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of the townſhip of *Moyamenſing*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are unequally burthened in contributing towards the ſupport of the poor, by being annexed to the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* in common for that purpoſe, and praying they may be ſtruck off, and permitted to ſupport their own poor; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley* be added to the committee appointed yeſterday, on the petitions of *William Mackey* and *Michael Eberle*.

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage which reſpects the renewal of the act for appointing wardens for the port of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed yeſterday the report on the petition of *Joſeph Fry*, made report, which was read; and on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the* "*troops of this commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for veſting the eſtate of the late " proprietaries of *Pennſylvania* in this commonwealth," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting a certain diſtrict of country, in* "*which the court-houſe in* Cheſter *county ſtands, into a county town,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain* "*tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* " Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in* "*repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 29, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the members of the *Hebrew* congregation of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that they have at a conſiderable expence erected a houſe for the worſhip of God; that they are ſtill indebted to divers perſons for compleating the ſame about *eight hundred pounds,* and for which the ſame will be ſold by public auction, unleſs payment of the ſaid ſum be made; that the number of their members is conſiderably diminiſhed, and unable to diſcharge the ſaid debt; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them leave to bring in a bill, to enable them to raiſe by way of lottery a ſum of money ſufficient for the aforeſaid purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Reading Beatty* and *Abraham du Bois* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the pilots of the port of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth the expediency of appointing one of their number to the office of a Warden of the port of *Philadelphia,* and praying that an increaſe of wages may be allowed to Pilots plying in the bay and river *Delaware*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Gordon,* read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The petitions of a number of the citizens of this ſtate, read *February* 27th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Work,* Mr. *Davis* and Mr. *Flenniken,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the frontier inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Wright,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be inſtructed to ſettle the accounts of the Truſtees of the loan-office, and report thereon, as well as of the ſums of money which have come to their hands and are not re-loaned, agreeably to the act, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting and opening a loan-office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds.*"

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the purchaſe of a tract of country on Lake *Erie,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the meſſage of Council reſpecting the purchaſe of a tract of land on Lake *Erie,* beg leave to report——

That in their opinion the purchaſe of the ſaid tract of land is an object highly worthy the attention of this ſtate; therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution,

That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to negotiate with the United States, for ſuch tract of country as may appear to be their property on Lake *Erie,* adjoining to the northern boundary of this ſtate, and report to the General Aſſembly the terms required by Congreſs, with an eſtimate of all the other expences which in their opinion may be neceſſary for compleating the purchaſe.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the letter from Governor *St. Clair,* and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the letter from Governor *St. Clair,* communicated by the Supreme Executive Council, report——

That the public funds being productive of nothing but paper, no means whatever preſent to them of complying with the requeſt contained in the ſaid letter for hard money: They therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be informed, that the Houſe do not perceive any preſent means by which the neceſſity mentioned in Governor *St. Clair*'s letter for ſpecie can be relieved.

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the revenue laws of this ſtate made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the revenue laws, report——

That the act, which entitles the exporters of goods to any ports or places without the capes of *Delaware* to a draw-back, reſtrains ſuch allowance to the original importers, and obliges them to produce a certificate of the goods being landed agreeably to the outward entry:

That the evident intention of the law appears to be, that the duties on goods exported by ſea to any other country or ſtate ſhould be drawn back, a proviſion wiſely intended to encourage the trade of this ſtate, by enabling its citizens to import goods conſumed in other ſtates:

That limiting the draw-backs to the original importer appears, in this reſpect, to be an unneceſſary reſtraint, and ſo far to counteract the intention of the law:

That with reſpect to certificates, it appears the proviſion is founded on the practice of *Great-Britain* in her intercouſe with her own colonies, and by no means applicable to the ſituation of *Pennſylvania*, and that ſufficient ſecurity againſt the re-landing of goods entered for exportation may be obtained by other proviſions:

The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for altering and amending ſo much of the revenue act of this ſtate, as reſtrains the granting of draw-backs on goods exported to the original importer, and obliged the exporters to produce certificates of the landing of ſuch goods.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage from Council, which reſpects an extenſion of the time limited by law for compleating titles which originated before the 10th day of *December*, 1776, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for extending the period allowed for compleating titles for lands held under office-rights obtained before the 10th of *December*, 1776, for the further term of from and after the tenth day of *April* next.

Ordered, That Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *White* and Mr. *M'Dowell* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schott*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands " by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes " therein mentioned," and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to " encreaſe the duties of exciſe upon wine, and upon rum, brandy and other ſpirits*," poſtponed *November* 26th laſt, and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enforce the due collection and payment of the duties of exciſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for building a draw-bridge acroſs* Cohockſinck "*creek, in the* Northern Liberties *of the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 1, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants reſiding in or holding lands within the townſhip of *Shippenſburgh,* read in the late Houſe *March* 24th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the *Chevalier de la Luzerne,* late Miniſter Plenipotentiary from his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to the United States of *America,* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

The Honorable the SPEAKER *of the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of Pennſylvania.*

SIR, *Paris.*

I HAVE received the act of the Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania,* and the letter you have honored me with, from which I learn that that ſtate has condeſcended to give my name to one of its newly erected counties. It is impoſſible for me to explain the grateful ſenſe I have of this diſtinguiſhed favor. Having the advantage of a long reſidence in *Pennſylvania,* I have been witneſs to all the acts of patriotiſm and valour performed in that ſtate, and which have ſo much contributed to the *American* independence.

I have had the further advantage of a perſonal knowledge of the different members of your government, and the opportunity of judging with what wiſdom, prudence and firmneſs, they have ſucceeded in eſtabliſhing one of the beſt governments in the world.

Laſtly, Sir, my long reſidence, my inclination, and the honor juſt conferred on me, are the ties which bind me inviolably to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.*

Be pleaſed, Sir, to aſſure the illuſtrious body you preſide over of my veneration and reſpect; and permit me to renew the aſſurances of the attachment with which I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your moſt humble and obedient ſervant,

DE LA LUZERNE.

A petition from *Ennion Williams* was read, praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Ebenezer Brady,* collector of taxes in the townſhip of *Hopewell,* and county of *Cumberland,* was read, ſetting forth, that on a final ſettlement of his duplicates he falls in arrear the ſum of *ſixty-five pounds,* and praying certificates for money by him loaned to the United States may be received in payment therefor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Wayne* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying that this Houſe may not oppoſe the adoption of the Conſtitution for the government of the United States, propoſed by the late Fœderal Convention.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Sparhawk* was read, praying payment of rent and damages ſuſtained by having a number of troops quartered in his Houſe in the city of *Philadelphia*, by order of the Supreme Executive Council.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 1340 inhabitants of the ſouth-weſtern parts of the county of *Northampton*, and of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Bucks*, *Berks* and *Montgomery*, read *February* 27th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Trexler*, Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 22d, on the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage from Council, reſpecting the reſolution of Congreſs of the 21ſt *March* laſt, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* Francis Mentges, *in* "*inſpecting the militia of the ſtate and the public arms*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to divide *Waſhington* county into "election diſtricts," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for veſting the eſtate of the late proprietaries of *Pennſylvania* in this common-"wealth," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with the petitions of the inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties*, and of the inhabitants of the *Dry Lands*, in the county of *Northampton*, to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Kremer*, Mr. *Trexler*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *White*, Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Philips*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for deſtroying the bills of credit of this com-*"*monwealth emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt* "*day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entituled* "An Act for "funding and redeeming the bills of credit of the United States of *America*, "and for providing means to bring the preſent war to an happy concluſion," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 3, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March* 1, 1788.

S I R,

BY direction of Council, I do myſelf the honor to tranſmit the petition of Meſſieurs *Bedford* and *Nevil,* upon the ſubject of their account for monies due to them for erecting a Triumphal Arch, which we beg leave to recommend to the conſideration of your honorable Houſe.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your obedient and very humble ſervant,
PETER MUHLENBERG.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of the*
General Aſſembly.

And the encloſures therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

A petition from *William Stewart* was read, praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the judge of admiralty was read, ſetting forth the hardſhip ſuſtained in the reduction of his ſalary by a late act of Aſſembly, alſo in conſequence of the depreciation of paper money; therefore praying, that at leaſt the cuſtomary fees of his office may be reſtored to him; and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The repreſentation of the judges of the ſupreme court of this commonwealth, read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petitions of 1726 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland,* read *February* 27th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Ralſton,* Mr. *Work,* Mr. *Schmyſer,* Mr. *D. Mitchell,* Mr. *G. Heiſter,* Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Sayler,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Irwin,* Mr. *Flenniken,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt,* Mr. *M'Calmont,* Mr. *Reiff,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, read *February* 25th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The memorial of the *Hebrew* congregation of the city of *Philadelphia,* read *February* 29th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the memorialiſts have leave to withdraw their memorial.

The petition of *Samuel Eſſop,* read *February* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

The petition of a number of perſons reſiding in or holding lands within the townſhip of *Shippenſburgh,* in the county of *Franklin,* read *March* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Schmyſer,* Mr. *Trexler,* and Mr. *M'Calmont,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Taylor,* read *November* 27th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Oliver* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage from council which reſpects the reſolution of Congreſs of the 21ſt of *March* laſt, read *March* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That his Excellency the Preſident and the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council be informed, that this Houſe having, by their committee, carefully examined into the ſubject matter of that part of the ſaid meſſage, which recommends to the notice of this Houſe the reſolution of Congreſs paſſed *March* 21ſt, 1787, and ſuggeſts the propriety of paſſing a declaratory act to anſwer the end intended by the ſaid reſolution, they cannot find that there is any act or acts, or any part or parts of any act or acts, paſſed by the legiſlature of *Pennſylvania,* now in force, which are repugnant to the treaty of peace between the United States and his Britannic Majeſty, or to any articles thereof, or that at all tend to reſtrain, limit, or in any manner impede, retard or counteract the operation and execution thereof, or to explain the ſame.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* Roman Catholics "*belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary'*s church, in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to divide "*Waſhington* county into election diſtricts," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 4, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* were read, praying that *Aughwick* creek may by law be declared a public highway, as far as the mouth of *Sideling-hill* creek.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Cadwallader* was read, praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Bartholomew Van-Heer*, late a Captain of light dragoons in the armies of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that by a reſolution of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, he conceives himſelf equally entitled to the benefits and emoluments to which officers of equal rank in the late *Pennſylvania* line are entitled, and praying a proportionable part of the donation lands ſet apart for the ſaid line may be granted unto him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 488 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* were read, ſuggeſting divers amendments to the act, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this commonwealth*," and praying for a reviſion of the ſame; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Champan*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas M'Cormick*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 14th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, incloſing a ſtatement of the additional duties impoſed by the acts of the 20th *September*, 1785, and the 15th *March*, 1787, ſo far as the ſame have been accounted for to him by the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia*, and of the appropriations of the revenues, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The memorial of *William Moore*, Eſquire, read *November* 26th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The letter from the honorable the Vice-Preſident, with its encloſures, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Philips*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee to confer with the Supreme Executive Council thereon, if they deem it neceſſary, and report to this Houſe.

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the continued depreciation of the paper currency, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read *March* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, praying a confirmation of the partition made, and of thoſe to be made between them, beg leave to report——

That they have enquired into the doubts of the petitioners reſpecting the validity of the ſaid partitions, and have diſcovered that they ariſe from an apprehenſion that the *Britiſh* acts of Parliament for the making of partitions do not extend to *Pennſylvania*:

That your committee, having informed themſelves on this ſubject, are of opinion that the ſtatutes are in force, and conſtantly practiſed under in this ſtate:

They therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the memorialiſts have leave to withdraw their memorial.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of this ſtate and the public arms and ſtores,*" was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed, and they are hereby authoriſed and directed to draw their warrant on the ſtate treaſurer, in favor of Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Mentges,* for the ſum of   as a full compenſation for the ſervices rendered as aforeſaid."

It was moved by Mr. *Kreemer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Sands,*

To fill up the blank with the words "*one hundred pounds:*"

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Dowell,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Will,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *John Salter,*
6 *Richard Peters,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Richard Thomas,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Richard Willing,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Joſeph Work,*
16 *William Mitchell,*
17 *David M'Clellan,*

YEAS.

18 *Joſeph Reed,*
19 *Joſeph Lilley,*
20 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
21 *Joſeph Sands,*
22 *Philip Kreemer,*
23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Peter Burkhalter,*
25 *Peter Ealer,*
26 *Jacob Saylor,*
27 *Samuel Maclay,*
28 *John White,*
29 *John Irwin,*
30 *Theophilus Philips,*
31 *Robert Lollar,*
32 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
33 *Peter Richards,*
34 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
2 *Samuel Foulke,*
3 *Valentine Upp,*
4 *Townſend Whelen,*
5 *James Clemſon,*
6 *Jacob Erb,*
7 *Michael Schmyſer,*
8 *Thomas Clingan,*
9 *David Mitchell,*
10 *Thomas Beale,*
11 *Thomas Kennedy,*
12 *John Oliver,*
13 *David Davis,*
14 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

15 *William Findley,*
16 *James Barr,*
17 *John M'Dowell,*
18 *James Alliſon,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Flenniken,*
21 *John Gilchreeſt,*
22 *James M'Lene,*
23 *James M'Calmont,*
24 *Jacob Reiff,*
25 *Jacob Miley,*
26 *Robert Clark,*
27 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; and the bill being fully debated, *Ordered,* That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement* "*to the act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the meaſurement of corn and " ſalt imported into the port of *Philadelphia,*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 5, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Letters from *Reading Beatty* and *William Linton* were read, ſeverally requeſting leave to withdraw their petitions; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they have leave to withdraw their petitions.

A petition from *Joſeph Hart* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jacob Beetein,* late a ſoldier in the line of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, eſtabliſhing the right of occupancy in preference to other claims.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Stephen Foulke* was read, ſtating his unavoidable misfortunes, and praying a remiſſion of the payment of his taxes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Wright,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland,* remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* " and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David H. Conyngham* and *John Ewing* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An " Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut* " *Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and " for other purpoſes therein mentioned," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law, unleſs an adequate compenſation be made, to the full ſatisfaction of the owners claiming under *Pennſylvania.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the town of *Harriſburgh,* in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, praying that the profits ariſing from the public ferry oppoſite the ſaid town may be applied towards the ſupport and endowment of a ſeminary of learning within the ſaid town.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Davis* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 27th, on the petition of *William Mackey*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertain-" ing and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands " by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes " therein mentioned."

And in debating the ninth ſection of the ſaid bill, together with the amendment moved by Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Findley*, *November* 24th laſt,

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Peters*,

To ſtrike out the remainder of the ſaid ſection, after the words, " *quality and value*," and in lieu thereof to inſert the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And whereas it has been the petition of ſome of the *Pennſylvania Claim-*" *ants*, that an optional equivalent be made to them in lands or money, " which it is not in the preſent ability of the legiſlature to comply with, by " reaſon of the low ſtate of the public funds and of the great burthen of " public debt, but which petition may lie over for the conſideration of ſome " future Aſſembly:

" Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That any *Pennſylvania* " *Claimant* as aforeſaid, willing to accept his equivalent in lands, may ſignify " the ſame to the board of property, which board thereupon are authoriſed " and directed to allot ſuch quantity of the public lands to the ſaid claimant, " as in their eſtimation ſhall be reaſonably equivalent to the loſs ſuſtained by " the ſaid claimant, according to the valuation made; and the board of pro-" perty ſhall order a warrant for the ſame to be iſſued by the proper officer; " and the equivalent made ſhall be in the reſiduum of the donation lands, or " in any other public lands either in the old or new purchaſe, not reſerved " for the uſe of the commonwealth." Whereupon,

Ordered, That the ſaid ſection and amendment, together with the one propoſed as a ſubſtitute, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *March* 6, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *John Stump*, *John Frederick Shetzig*, *Martin Snider* and *Peter Gordon*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement;

finement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, reſiding on the weſt ſide of the river *Suſquehanna*, was read, praying that part of the ſaid county may be erected into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Campbell* was read, ſetting forth, that he was appointed to raiſe a company of rangers for the protection of the frontiers of this ſtate; that in raiſing and equipping the ſame he advanced conſiderable ſums of money, which were repaid to him at a loſs of *ſeventeen pounds three ſhillings* ſpecie; and praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof, as well as of the ſum of *one hundred and ſeventy-ſix pounds nineteen ſhillings*, due to him on the depreciation of his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, praying for a reviſion of the fourth ſection of the act, entituled "*An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery*," ſo far as the ſame ſubjects the city, townſhip or diſtrict, to ſupport and maintain Negroe children born within the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 12th laſt, on the memorial of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Abraham Lukens*, *November* 8th laſt, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Samuel Eſſop*, *March* 3d, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 29th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of this ſtate againſt the importation of foreign malt and barley, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the council for and againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," appeared at the bar of the Houſe: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That this Houſe reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of hearing council on the aforeſaid bill.

Mr. *M'Lene* was choſen Chairman of the committee.

Mr. Speaker leaving the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

And having heard the council againſt the aforeſaid bill,

The Chairman quitting the chair, the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that they had made ſome progreſs in the buſineſs, and requeſted leave to ſit again at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Ordered, That leave be granted accordingly.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Speaker, being informed by a note from *Miers Fiſher*, Eſquire, the council retained on the part of the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river *Schuylkill*, that he was very much indiſpoſed, and unable to proceed at preſent, laid the ſame before the Houſe: Whereupon

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 7, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the miniſters, veſtrymen and church-wardens of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that they have eſtabliſhed a charity ſchool for the education of poor children, and praying this Houſe to endow the ſaid ſchool with a part of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Iſaac Hicks* was read, praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Murray*, late a Captain of a company of riflemen raiſed for the defence of the frontiers of the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, that he expended conſiderable ſums of money in raiſing and equipping the ſaid company, and praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof to be made to him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Samuel Smith*, junior, *William Stewart* and *Joſeph Hart* have leave to withdraw their reſpective petitions, praying to be appointed regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks*.

Petitions from a number of the citizens of this ſtate, and land-holders in the counties of *Northampton* and *Luzerne*, were read, ſtating, that conſiderable ſums of money have already been ſubſcribed for opening two roads, one beginning at or near *Pocona* point, and to extend northerly to the boundary line of the ſtate, and another leading from it at a proper place, and extending to the river *Suſquehanna*, at or near *Tioga*, and praying this Houſe to grant them a further ſum for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying a further time of payment for their unpatented lands may be allowed them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 29th laſt, on the petition of *Thomas Gordon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The

The committee appointed *February* 25th laſt, on the memorial of the people called Quakers, in favor of the diſtreſſed *Africans*, and alſo from divers inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Bucks*, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *James Hanna*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-"ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of hearing council in favor of the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-"ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," when the Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After having heard the ſaid council, the Chairman left the chair, and the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that they had made further progreſs in the buſineſs, and requeſted leave to ſit again in the afternoon.

Ordered, That leave be granted accordingly.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole.

The Chairman reported, that the committee of the whole had heard the council as well for as againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia:" Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-"ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 8, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the inhabitants of part of the townſhips of *Paxton* and *Derry*, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying to be erected into a ſeparate diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Epiſcopal congregation of St. *James*'s Church, at *Perkiomen*, in the county of *Montgomery*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they have leave to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March* 8, 1788.

SIR,

BY direction of Council I do myſelf the honor to incloſe you a ſtate of the repreſentation in Congreſs for the month of *February* 1788, together with the proceedings of the Supreme Court in the caſe of *John M'Calmont* againſt the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, from which it appears that the ſum of *five hundred pounds*, *Pennſylvania* currency, is awarded to *John M'Calmont*, and as no funds are appropriated for the payment of the money ſo awarded, we find it neceſſary to lay it before the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of the*
General Aſſembly.

A petition from divers members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of* New-London, *in the county of* Cheſter," and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the ſeſſion and members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying the act, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of* New-London, *in the county of* Cheſter," may not be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 138 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Henry Aurandt* was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1780 he was appointed an aſſiſtant purchaſing commiſſioner for the troops in actual ſervice in the county of *Northumberland*, and contracted divers debts in the execution of his ſaid appointment, and received the amount thereof in a depreciated paper currency, which the creditors from whom he purchaſed would not receive, but have inſtituted ſuits againſt him for payment thereof in ſpecie, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Leſlie* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented and conſtructed three different methods of attaching and ſuſpending pendulums of clocks (whether ſuch pendulums be of metal or wood) upon entire new principles, ſo that their vibrations, or the deſcribed arches of their ſwing, ſhall not be leſſened or affected by the action of the weather upon the movements; and praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him, his heirs and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and vending the ſame within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the contributors for the better employment, relief and ſupport of the poor within the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, the townſhips of *Moyamenſing*, *Paſſyunk* and the *Northern Liberties*, was read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate, the managers therein appointed were to continue in office until the contributors for the relief and employment of the poor, who are legally qualified by taking and ſubſcribing the oath or affirmation of allegiance to the ſtate, ſhall, under the act of their incorporation, elect others in their place and ſtead, whereby a conſiderable number of the contributors are diſqualified from ſerving in the aforeſaid offices, and many of the original contributors being either dead or departed from the ſtate, the number of perſons ſuitable for filling the ſaid offices is much reduced, and praying a law may be paſſed, to enable the ſurviving contributors and all future contributors to elect and be elected managers and treaſurer of the ſaid inſtitution; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Van Campen*, in behalf of himſelf and as agent for others claiming lands within the county of *Luzerne*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act for erecting the ſaid county, and the act, entituled "*An Act* "*for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, "*the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne," and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the miniſter, veſtrymen and church-wardens of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Richards* and Mr. *Burkhalter*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Abraham Lukens*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of claims, to whom was re-committed the petition of *Abraham Lukens*, beg leave to report,——

That they have re-conſidered the ſaid petition, and at the ſame time examined the ſaid *Lukens* perſonally, find that he renewed his claim againſt *John Fox*'s eſtate in conſequence of a law concerning confiſcated eſtates, paſſed the 22d day of *September*, 1785, wherein he ſaw a yearly rent of twenty-two buſhels of wheat payable to the Truſtees of the univerſity, ariſing out of a lot late the property of ſaid *Fox*.

Your committee are of opinion that the fourth ſection of the law alluded to means only ſuch perſons as may have legal claims to ſuch forfeited eſtates, and does not extend ſo far as to include debts of a perſonal nature: Wherefore

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee, read *March* 4th, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the continued depreciation of the paper money, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be informed, that the Houſe are of opinion that a ſteady adherance to the laws in force for the redemption of the bills emitted by virtue of the act, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the* "*quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United* "*States, and funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate,*" will prove the beſt means to ſupport the credit of the ſaid paper money, and that it is not neceſſary to make any new proviſions reſpecting it.

The report on the petition of *Samuel Eſſop*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report on the petition of *Thomas Gordon*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the petition of *Thomas Gordon* was referred, having attended to the ſubject of their appointment, and examined ſeveral certificates, depoſitions and other evidence, produced to them, do find the following facts as the reſult of their enquiries.

That the petitioner was called upon by proclamation of the Supreme Executive Council, bearing date the 22d day of *June*, 1779, requiring him to ſurrender himſelf to ſome one of the Juſtices therein mentioned, on or before the 5th day of *Auguſt* then next following, and abide his legal trial for the crime of high treaſon; and by default of ſurrendering himſelf within the time ſo limited, he became attainted thereof, and his eſtate in conſequence was a forfeiture to the commonwealth.

At this time Mr. *Gordon* was a minor, and beyond ſeas.

Previouſly to the commencement of the late war, the petitioner was bound apprentice to the maſter of a veſſel, to be inſtructed in the art of a mariner, but was in the year 1778 at home with his mother, who then reſided in the townſhip of *Oxford*, and county of *Philadelphia*. He at this time made ſeveral attempts to join the *American* army, to which his mother (who was alſo his guardian) appears to have been very averſe, conſtantly refuſing her conſent, although ſolicited to comply with his requeſt by ſome friends whom he had induced to uſe their influence for that purpoſe.

Shortly after Mrs. *Gordon* brought her ſon into the city of *Philadelphia* (then poſſeſſed by the *Britiſh* army) and placed him on board a veſſel belonging to that nation, urging as reaſons for ſo doing, the ungovernable temper of the youth, and her determination that he ſhould compleat his knowledge in the profeſſion ſhe had deſigned him for. He appears to have complied very reluctantly, and to have been induced to accede, partly by compulſion and partly by means of ſmall preſents.

By deviſe of his father he became entitled to a ſmall eſtate, whereof the commonwealth has not taken poſſeſſion, but for which the executor of the laſt will of his father cannot ſafely account with him, unleſs the claim of the ſtate be relinquiſhed.

Your committee being of opinion, that whilſt the laws of the ſtate ſubjected Mr. *Gordon* to the authority of his parent and guardian, he ought not equitably to ſtand reſponſible for her acts; therefore, from the peculiar circumſtances of his caſe, recommend the following reſolution as proper to be adopted by the Houſe:——

That *Thomas Gordon* have leave to introduce a bill, to be enacted into a law, for reveſting in him, his heirs and aſſigns, certain eſtates, forfeited to this commonwealth by virtue of his attainder as aforeſaid.

The

The report on the petition of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate and endow an academy or public "ſchool in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *March* 10, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating, that the law for preventing unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork is very deficient, and praying this Houſe to reviſe the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with that read *February* 23d laſt, reſpecting the preſent militia laws of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James M'Donald*, late a collector of public taxes within the townſhip of *Hopewell*, in the county of *York*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of *one hundred and thirty-four pounds* ſpecie, by him collected in the payment of taxes, and praying the amount thereof may be placed to his credit on the ſettlement of his account; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *York*, to report thereon.

The memorial of divers citizens of this ſtate, and land-holders in the counties of *Northampton* and *Luzerne*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas M'Cormick*, read *March* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Schmyſer* and Mr. *Philips*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Jacob Beetein*, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of *Lurgan*, *Southampton*, and the adjacent parts of *Letterkenny* townſhips, in the county of *Franklin*, read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Campbell*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Murray*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Henry Aurandt*, read *March* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the town of *Harriſburgh*, in the county of *Dauphin*, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Dauphin* county, to report thereon.

The petition of the freeholders and other inhabitants of part of the townſhips of *Paxton* and *Derry*, in the county of *Dauphin*, read *March* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* reſiding on the weſt ſide of the river *Suſquehanna*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *March* 3d, on the petitions for a diviſion of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Waſhington*, and that Mr. *Maclay* be added to the committee, in the room of Mr. *White*.

The report on the petition of *Joſeph Fry*, read *February* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report on the petition of *William Mackey*, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz*.

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of Captain *William Mackey*, beg leave to report——

That having maturely conſidered the merits of the ſaid petition, are unanimouſly of opinion that Captain *William Mackey*, by a wound received through his body in the late war, is rendered unfit for any labour, and under continual bodily pain and diſtreſs; is therefore a fit object of thoſe proviſions made by the penſion laws, for the enjoyment of which his delicacy hath hitherto prevented him from applying.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That an extraordinary exertion of this Houſe for his relief is not abſolutely neceſſary.

The report of the committee on the memorial of the people called Quakers, in favor of the diſtreſſed *Africans*, and alſo divers inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz*.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the people called Quakers, in favor of the diſtreſſed *Africans* and their deſcendants, and alſo that from divers inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* on the ſame ſubject, report——

That having paid all the attention to the ſubject matter of the ſaid petitions, which its importance ſeemed to require, it appears to your committee, that although the act, entituled "*An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery*," has been attended with very ſalutary effects, it is not ſufficiently calculated to anſwer all the benevolent purpoſes which the legiſlature had in view, and which juſtice and humanity call for.

The ſubject, important as it is, was, in the ſcience of legiſlation, in ſome degree new and unexplored, and experience evinces, that in ſuch caſes the utmoſt ſtretch of human wiſdom is inadequate to the arduous taſk of guarding againſt all the miſchiefs and ſubtile evaſions, which artful and unprincipled men are too apt to embrace. Hence it is, that perſons of this deſcription, unmindful of that rule, which commands "that whatſoever we would that men ſhould do to us, we ſhould do even ſo to them," have, as your committee are credibly informed, in a variety of inſtances, and in contravention of the reſolution of Congreſs of the 20th *October*, 1774, by which that auguſt body did for themſelves and their conſtituents firmly agree and aſſociate, under the ſacred ties of virtue, honor, and love of their country, that they would neither import, nor purchaſe any ſlave imported, after the firſt day of *December* then next, but would wholly diſcontinue the ſlave trade, and would neither be concerned in it themſelves, or hire their veſſels, or ſell their commodities or manufactures to thoſe who ſhould be concerned in it, equipped and fitted out from the port of *Philadelphia* veſſels, provided with hand cuffs and military implements, in order to ſtir up and arm the princes of *Africa* to wage war againſt each other, for the encouragement and ſupport of an unrighteous traffic in human fleſh—a traffic by which huſbands, torn from their wives, and wives from their huſbands, parents from their children, and children from their parents, are ſold as captive ſlaves into a long and cruel bondage.

That if the declaration contained in our bill of rights, "that all men are born equally free and independent;" or that in the act of independence, "that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among which are, life, liberty, and the purſuit of happineſs," is founded in truth; and, more eſpecially, if the whole race of men are created by one God for the ſame noble purpoſes; and if he will, as we are taught to believe, "avenge the injuries of his people;" it appears to your committee, that the petitioners ſpeak but the Divine Will, in requiring that this evil may be done away from the land.

That to your committee it alſo appears that the ſaid act is defective, and requires amendments in the following particulars:

1ſt. It does not prohibit the owners of ſlaves from ſelling them from their wives, or their huſbands, their parents, or their children, into diſtant parts, and even into foreign countries.

2d. It ordains no puniſhment for thoſe men-ſtealers, who by fraud and violence ſeize and hurry into diſtant countries, and perpetual bondage, free negroes and mulattoes.

3d. It provides that negroes or mulattoes who ſhould be born of ſlaves, after the paſſing of the ſaid act, ſhould be free, on their attaining the age of 28 years, but does not provide againſt their being ſent, before they arrive to that age, into neighbouring ſtates or foreign countries, in order to deprive them of that liberty to which they would be entitled here; nor does it guard againſt ſlaves who are pregnant being ſent out of the ſtate till after their delivery, ſo that their iſſue may be held in ſlavery during life.

4th. It provides, that all negroe and mulattoe ſlaves who ſhould be brought into the ſtate ſhould be free, with an exception (among others) of ſuch as ſhould attend their owner, when travelling through or ſojourning in it, without being detained here for ſix months, but does not ſufficiently guard againſt the citizens of this ſtate or others ſending their ſlaves out of the ſtate ſhortly before the end of ſix months, and then bringing them back, whereby the ſaid act is in a great meaſure evaded.

To your committee it therefore appears, that the frequency of theſe and other miſchiefs, contrary to the ſpirit of the ſaid act, and the principles on which it is founded, require ſome further aid of the law, to check what humanity is too often inadequate to perform.

They therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to explain and amend the act, entituled "*An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery.*"

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* " *deſtroying the bills of credit of this commonwealth emitted in purſuance of an* " *act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hun-* " *dred and eighty, entituled* " An Act for funding and redeeming the bills of " credit of the United States of *America*, and for providing means to bring " the preſent war to an happy concluſion ;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof.*

An ACT *to incorporate and endow an academy or public ſchool in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 11, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the ſurviving patentees of a lot of ground in the borough of *Carliſle* was read, ſetting forth, that the late proprietaries of *Pennſylvania* granted and confirmed unto the petitioners, and others in the ſaid patent named, a certain lot of ground in the ſaid borough, in truſt, and for the expreſs purpoſe of erecting thereon a grammar ſchool; that ſince the aforeſaid grant the truſtees of *Dickinſon* college have erected a ſeminary of learning on the aforeſaid lot; and praying the ſame may be veſted in the ſaid truſtees, and their ſucceſſors, for the uſe of ſaid college.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition preſented yeſterday reſpecting the militia laws of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, remonſtrating againſt the partial as well as outrageous conduct of *Thomas*

Dyer, Eſquire, one of the juſtices of the peace for the ſaid county, and praying the ſaid *Dyer* may be ſuperſeded in his ſaid office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Tranſcripts of the taxes aſſeſſed on perſons and property in the city and county of *Philadelphia*, for the year 1787, were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Thomas Mawhorter, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Northampton*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the ſaid *John Penn*, &c. (as above) and all other perſons who have ſubſcribed any ſum or ſums, not leſs than twenty-ſix *Spaniſh* milled dollars and two third parts of a dollar each, ſhall be, and they are hereby erected into and declared to be one body politic and corporate, in deed and law, by the name, ſtile and title of "*The company for erecting a permanent bridge acroſs the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," and by the ſame name ſhall be capable of acquiring and holding perſonal property, on terms for years, in real eſtate, to the value of forty thouſand dollars, or more, if more ſhould become neceſſary for compleating the work aforeſaid, and ſhall have ſucceſſion, and may ſue or be ſued, plead or be impleaded, in all courts of judicature whatſoever, and ſhall and may have and uſe one common ſeal to authenticate their acts, which ſeal they may break and alter at their pleaſure."

It was moved by Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Lewis*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration thereof,

Which was carried in the negative.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid paragraph?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Peters*,

To re-conſider the ſaid paragraph.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And the ſaid recited paragraph being again before the Houſe,

It was, on motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 12, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* were read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of the great ſtagnation of trade, the weak ſtate of public, and almoſt total annihilation of private credit, the preſſure of taxes, and the extreme ſcarcity of circulating ſpecie, real eſtates and other kinds of property have fallen to a very low value, inſomuch that they are ſelling at Sheriffs, and other public ſales, from one half to one fifth part of their real value; and praying that a law may be paſſed, directing the Sheriffs, in every caſe where they ſhall have levied on real or perſonal property, to have the ſame valued or appraiſed by a jury of twelve men, and that the creditors ſhall either receive the ſame at the appraiſement, or that further execution be ſtayed thereon for a certain term of years, on the debtors giving ſufficient ſecurity for the payment of the intereſt annually, and the principal at the expiration of the term; but where lands and tenements taken in execution will ſatiſfy the debt and coſts in ſeven years, the law to remain as at preſent.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions of a ſimilar tenor from the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 169 citizens of this ſtate were read, praying an act may be paſſed that ſhall effectually put a ſtop to the ſlave trade being carried on, directly or indirectly, in this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of this ſtate were read, ſetting forth, that they mortgaged their lands in the year 1773 to the then truſtees of the loan-office, and praying that certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate may be received in diſcharge of the ſaid mortgages.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *March* 3d, on the petitions praying for a diviſion of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Northumberland*, to report thereon.

A petition from *James M'Manus* was read, ſetting forth, that in the month of *October* 1786 he was under the direction of *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, a commiſſioner for running the northern boundary line, when a tree unhappily fell upon him and broke his arm and leg, which has rendered him incapable of ſupporting himſelf, and praying relief from this Houſe for his ſupport.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hewſon*, cotton, linen and callicoe printer, was read, ſetting forth, that he has at a conſiderable expence carried on that art for a number of years, and praying a ſmall premium may be granted him, ſo that he may be enabled to bring the ſaid buſineſs to perfection within this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Oliver* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

A petition from 234 inhabitants of the borough of *Reading* was read, remonſtrating againſt the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read *November* 19th laſt, and praying the prayer of the ſaid memorial may not be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and memorial from the Reverend *William Smith*, D. D. was read, referring to his petitions, memorials and remonſtrances, preſented to former Houſes of Aſſembly, as well as their proceedings thereon, reſpecting the act, entituled "*An Act to confirm the eſtates and intereſts of the college, academy and "charitable ſchool of the city of* Philadelphia, &c." and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and that the eſtates and intereſts of the ſaid college may be reſtored.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *March* 6th, on the petition for a prohibition of the importation of malt and barley, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, impoſing a duty of   for every hundred buſhels of foreign malt and barley imported into this ſtate, from and after the   day of   next.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *March* 8th, on that part of the meſſage which recommends a reduction of the price of public lands within the late purchaſe, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on that part of the meſſage, which recommends the lowering the price of lands in the late purchaſe, report——

That having carefully conſidered the ſame, and by enquiring of the officers of the land-offices, find that no warrants have been taken for land in that part of the ſtate for fourteen months laſt paſt, except twelve; in all probability no warrants will be taken out for any of ſaid lands while the price continues as at preſent, the beſt of the lands being already ſurveyed; and it is very probable, that if the price of the lands was lowered, large quantities would be ſold, which would be an advantage to the ſtate, as it would leſſen the public debt: Therefore,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to lower the price of lands in the new purchaſe.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Mitchell,*
2 *David M'Clellan,*
3 *Joſeph Reed,*
4 *David Mitchell,*
5 *Thomas Beale,*
6 *Thomas Kennedy,*
7 *John Oliver,*
8 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
9 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Joſeph Sands,*
12 *Philip Kreemer,*
13 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
14 *Peter Burkhalter,*
15 *John Piper,*
16 *Jacob Saylor,*
17 *Samuel Maclay,*
18 *John White,*

YEAS.

19 *William Findley,*
20 *James Barr,*
21 *John Irwin,*
22 *John M'Dowell,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Alexander Wright,*
25 *John Flenniken,*
26 *Theophilus Philips,*
27 *John Gilchreeſt,*
28 *James M'Lene,*
29 *James M'Calmont,*
30 *Robert Lollar,*
31 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
32 *Peter Richards,*
33 *Jacob Miley,*
34 *Robert Clark,*
35 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*

NAYS.

17 *Samuel Evans,*
18 *Richard Willing,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Adam Hubley,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *James Clemſon,*
24 *Jacob Erb,*
25 *John Hopkins,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *Joſeph Lilley,*
28 *Thomas Clingan,*
29 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
30 *Peter Ealer,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was carried in the affirmative. Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Calmont* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral impoſt laws of this ſtate, as* “ *confines the allowing of draw-backs on goods imported to the original importers* “ *thereof, and obliges the exporter to produce certificates of the landing of ſuch* “ *goods,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act for the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by rob*“ *beries,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *An Act* “ *for aſcertaining and diſtributing certain ſixty thouſand acres of land, with the* “ *allowance of ſix* per centum *for public roads, &c. reſerved for the endowment* “ *of county ſchools by an act of* General *Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventh day of* “ April, Anno Domini *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, entituled* “ An Act for the preſent relief and future endowment of *Dickinſon* college, “ in the borough of *Carliſle,* and county of *Cumberland,* in this ſtate, and “ for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate, as a “ fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the forty-fourth “ ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “ *An Act for veſting in* Thomas Gordon, *his heirs and aſſigns, certain eſtates* “ *forfeited to this commonwealth by virtue of his attainder of high treaſon,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 13, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 682 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, reſiding weſt from *Muncy-hill*, were read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, and that *Loyalſock* creek may be the diviſion line on the north ſide of the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna*, and *White-deer* mountain on the ſouth ſide of ſaid river; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed *March* 3d, on the petitions for a diviſion of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Northumberland*, to report thereon.

Memorials from the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auctions* "*and vendues*," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law in its preſent form, but ſo altered, that the auctioneers for the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, may be limited to their preſent number.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the ſurviving patentees of a lot of ground in the borough of *Carliſle*, read *March* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, with its incloſures, read *March* 10th, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the petition of *Thomas Stokeley* be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *James Cuningham* be referred to Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Barr* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, to report thereon.

The memorial of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, praying that the county courts may be empowered to eſtabliſh ferries, poſtponed *February* 29th.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Maclay*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

A member in his place, with the leave of the Houſe, read and preſented to the Speaker a bill, entituled "*An Act declaring* Chartiers *creek, in the* "*county of* Waſhington, *a public highway*," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to* "*the troops of this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes* "*of public monies by robberies*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An additional Supplement to the acts for the regulation " of the militia of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 14, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the College of Phyſicians of *Philadelphia* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met,*

The PETITION *of the* COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA,

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT your petitioners have lately formed themſelves into a College, for the purpoſe of promoting enquiries and extending knowledge in the ſcience of Medicine:

For this purpoſe, they conceive the ſtudy of Botany to be a very important and eſſential part of the objects of the College:

That this branch of Medicine can only be cultivated with advantage by means of a Botanical Garden:

That the eſtabliſhment and ſupport of ſuch nurſeries of Botanical Knowledge have engaged the patronage of the moſt reſpectable governments in *Europe:*

That a Botanical Garden in this new country is rendered more neceſſary, in order to preſerve and tranſmit to poſterity many plants, which, in the progreſs of improvements and cultivation of the earth, cannot fail of being loſt, or of exiſting under circumſtances leſs profitable, than may be expected from being cultivated in a ſpot appropriated to that purpoſe:

From the liberality diſcovered by the Legiſlatures of *Pennſylvania* in eſtabliſhing and endowing ſeminaries of learning, your petitioners are encouraged to requeſt the appropriation of a part of the unſold lots in the city of *Philadelphia,* for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a Botanical Garden, to be veſted in ſuch perſons or bodies of men as in your wiſdom may ſeem proper.

JOHN REDMAN, *Preſident.*

In College of Phyſicians, March 3d, 1788.

JAMES HUTCHINSON, *Secretary.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hague,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that he has compleated a machine to card cotton for the Manufacturing Society, which performs equal to their expectation, and that he is now making and has nearly compleated a machine for ſpinning of cotton; and praying this Houſe to grant him ſuch ſupport and encouragement, by premium, as may be deemed meet.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freeholders and others, inhabitants of *Lebanon* and *Heidelberg* townſhips, late in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that three of the commiſſioners appointed in purſuance of the act, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter *into a ſeparate county*," paſſed the fourth day of *March*, 1785, have run and marked the county line therein ſpecified different from the intention and deſcription of the ſaid law; that two other of the ſaid commiſſioners have run and marked the ſaid county line agreeably to the expreſſions and ſpirit of the legiſlature; therefore praying that the laſt mentioned boundary may be eſtabliſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *James M'Manus*, read *March* 12th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clemſon*, Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Leſlie*, read *March* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Alliſon* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from Council relative to the penal law, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred, *March* 3d, the petitions praying for a diviſion of the county of *Cumberland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred, *March* 3d, the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *Northumberland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 8th and 12th, on the petitions of *Robert Taylor* and *John Hewſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the memorial and petition of divers citizens and land-holders in the counties of *Northampton* and *Luzerne* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, and for extending the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independency*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 21ſt laſt, on the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities at a reaſonable intereſt*," was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting a lot of ground therein deſcribed, with the buildings and* "*improvements thereon erected and made, in the truſtees of* Dickinſon *college, in* "*the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act declaring* Chartiers *creek, in the county of* "Waſhington, *a public highway*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious ſo-*"*ciety of* Roman *Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary's *church,* "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting in* Thomas Gordon, *his heirs and* "*aſſigns, certain eſtates, forfeited to this commonwealth by virtue of his attainder* "*of high treaſon,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral* "*impoſt laws of this ſtate, as confines the allowing of draw-backs of goods ex-*"*ported to the original importers thereof, and obliges the exporter to produce cer-*"*tificates of the landing of ſuch goods,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the* "*donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 15, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Archibald Irwin* was read, ſetting forth, that he depoſited a conſiderable part of his perſonal property in the public funds, and lately hath ſuffered conſiderable loſs by the burning of his ſtore, *&c.* and praying this Houſe to grant him relief, by directing payment of the intereſt as well as principal of the ſums ſo loaned to the public.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying for a reviſion of the laws now in force within this ſtate reſpecting the eſtates of perſons dying inteſtate, ſo far as the ſaid laws entitle the eldeſt ſon to hold two ſhares of the deceaſed's eſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was referred, *March* 5th, the ſeveral amendments propoſed to the *Wyoming* bill, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Lurgan*, *Southampton*, and part of *Letterkenny*, in the county of *Franklin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Harriſburgh*, in the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of part of *Paxton* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the the table.

The committee appointed *March* 3d, on the petition of 1346 inhabitants of the counties of *Northampton*, *Bucks*, *Berks* and *Montgomery*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enable the land-officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein* "*deſcribed*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of* "*credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for* "*redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, and for extending the time for* "*patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independency*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and diſtributing certain ſixty* "*thouſand acres of land, with the allowance of ſix* per centum *for public roads,* "&c. *reſerved for the endowment of county ſchools, by* "An Act for the pre-"ſent relief and future endowment of *Dickinſon* college, in the borough of "*Carliſle*, and county of *Cumberland*, in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of "the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate as a fund for the endow-"ment of public ſchools, agreeably to the forty-fourth ſection of the con-"ſtitution of this commonwealth," was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To re-commit the ſaid bill.

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Will*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Richard Peters*,

YEAS.

9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

17 *Adam Hubley,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*
19 *James Clemſon,*
20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *John Hopkins,*
22 *Joſeph Lilley,*
23 *Thomas Clingan,*
24 *Thomas Kennedy,*
25 *John Oliver,*
26 *Joſeph Sands,*
27 *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

28 *Samuel Maclay,*
29 *John White,*
30 *William Findley,*
31 *James Barr,*
32 *John Irvine,*
33 *James Alliſon,*
34 *Alexander Wright,*
35 *John Flenniken,*
36 *John Carſon,*
37 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *John Chapman,*
3 *James Moore,*
4 *Michael Schmyſer,*
5 *William Mitchell,*
6 *David M'Clellan,*
7 *Joſeph Reed,*
8 *David Mitchell,*
9 *Thomas Beale,*
10 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
11 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
12 *David Davis,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
15 *Peter Burkhalter,*

NAYS.

16 *Peter Ealer,*
17 *John Piper,*
18 *Jacob Saylor,*
19 *John M'Dowell,*
20 *Theophilus Philips,*
21 *John Gilchreeſt,*
22 *James M'Lene,*
23 *James M'Calmont,*
24 *Jacob Reiff,*
25 *Robert Lollar,*
26 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *Jacob Miley,*
29 *Robert Clark.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The petition and memorial of the Reverend *William Smith,* D. D. read *March* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Reſolved, That this Houſe will on *Tueſday* next proceed to the election, by ballot, of a committee, to conſiſt of thirteen members, to whom ſhall be referred the above memorial.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 17, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 231 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* were read, praying that the conſtitution propoſed by the late Fœderal Convention may not be adopted, and that the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States may be inſtructed to that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 8th, on the petition of the miniſter, veſtrymen and church-wardens of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage from Council reſpecting the penal law, read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time; and in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

To amend the ſaid report in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate.*"

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

And the report having been fully debated, was adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee on that part of the meſſage from Council relative to the penal law report——

That they have endeavoured to inveſtigate the matter referred to them with the attention which is due to ſo intereſting a ſubject, and for this purpoſe have obtained liſts of all thoſe that have been ſentenced to hard labor under the preſent law, many of whom have been pardoned, ſeveral have eſcaped, a few are dead, the time of a few is expired, others ſtill remain confined; ſaid liſts are herewith ſubmitted for information.

Your committee are informed, that about the time the act was paſſed there was a great many perſons in the cuſtody of the Sheriff of *Philadelphia*, who were either convicted of or charged with ſuch offences as would now incur ſentence to hard labor; that theſe offenders were generally diſcharged; thoſe wretches, returning eagerly to their vicious courſes, were ſoon replaced in the Sheriff's cuſtody for new felonies, and other atrocious crimes, whereby much diſgrace was brought upon the act lately paſſed, as if the altering and moderating of puniſhments produced this ſudden commiſſion of crimes. Thus the good intent of this benevolent plan was hurt in the outſet by the large ſtock of old offenders (the gathering of years;) for could they have been diſpoſed of otherwiſe, the buſineſs would have had much fairer play. Your committee are of opinion that the ſcheme has been corrupted in two ways; firſt, by the repeated pardons that have been obtained; and ſecondly, by the numerous eſcapes. Whether private and ſecret puniſhment would be preferable to that which is open and public ſeems at preſent unneceſſary to determine, but would juſt remark, that it is within the authority of the juſtices to decree both or either. Your committee are of opinion that the law ought to be amended, by annexing ſevere puniſhment to the crimes of deſerting from the keeper or overſeer, of committing a ſecond offence, of rebelling againſt the officer, *&c.*—Your committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for improving and amending the penal law of this ſtate.

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the report be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution, and that Mr. *Lewis* be added, in the room of Mr. *Logan*, who is excuſed at his own requeſt.

The report of the committee appointed on the petition of divers citizens and land-holders in the counties of *Northampton* and *Luzerne*, read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the memorial and petition of divers citizens and landholders in the counties of *Northampton* and *Luzerne*, relative to a propoſed road from *Pocona* point, and extending northerly to the boundary of the ſtate; and alſo another road branching from the ſame and extending to *Suſquehanna*, at or near *Tioga*, beg leave to report——

That in the opinion of your committee the roads propoſed to be laid out by the petitioners will be very extenſively uſeful to the ſtate, as well by facilitating the tranſportation of produce and merchandize, as encouraging the ſettlement and ſale of public lands in the ſeveral parts through which the ſaid roads are intended to paſs:

That although the petitioners, who are intereſted in lands which will be benefited by theſe roads, have raiſed by voluntary contributions a conſiderable ſum towards the expence of opening and clearing the intended roads, yet the coſt will far exceed what ought reaſonably to be expected from private exertion:

That as the public are intereſted in the ſaid propoſed roads, and ſhould from public motives encourage the population and commerce of the ſtate, your committee are of opinion that a ſum of money ſhuold be granted in aid of the private contributions of the petitioners:

Wherefore your committee beg leave to report the following reſolutions:

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, enabling certain Commiſſioners, therein to be named, to lay out and open roads from *Pocona* point, in the county of *Northampton*, to a place called *Mount Ararat*, and from thence to the *New-York* line, at the intended carrying place between the rivers *Suſquehanna* and *Delaware*, and alſo from the ſaid *Mount Ararat* to the moſt proper place at or near the mouth of the river *Tioga*.

That the ſum of   be granted out of the public treaſury, towards defraying the expence of laying out and opening the ſaid roads.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The committee appointed *November* 12th laſt, on the petition of *John Robinſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 15th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Harriſburg*, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *March* 15th, on the petition of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Lurgan* and *Southampton*, in the county of *Franklin*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of forming the inhabitants of the ſaid townſhips of *Lurgan* and *Southampton* into a ſeparate election diſtrict.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *March* 15th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Lower-Paxton* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Ordered, That the members from *Dauphin* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation of St.* James, *at* Perkiomen, "*in the townſhip of* New-Providence, *and county of* Montgomery," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member in his place, having obtained leave, read and preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate* Joſeph Fry, *Door-keeper of the* "*Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly,* "*from any charge for rent, or other demands, for or on account of his occupying* "*of part of the weſtern wing of the ſtate-houſe, and conſuming the herbage of* "*the ſtate-houſe yard,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to lay a duty on foreign barley and malt imported into this ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 18, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Memorials from a number of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auc-* "*tions and vendues,*" as publiſhed for conſideration, may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry,* on behalf of themſelves and others, the comedians, commonly called the *Old American Company,* was read, praying ſo much of the act which relates to public exhibitions, as tends to the prohibition of the drama, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Evan Owen* was read, ſetting forth, that in obedience to the order of the honorable *John Penn,* Eſquire, late proprietary and governor of *Pennſylvania,* a *poſſe comitatus* was raiſed in the county of *Northumberland,* to quell the diſturbances exiſting at *Wyoming*; that in order to facilitate the above purpoſes, he furniſhed neceſſaries for the ſaid *poſſe comitatus,* whilſt in execution of the orders of government, to the amount of upwards of *twenty pounds,* and for which he hath not received any compenſation; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him redreſs in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Archibald Irwin,* read *March* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Reed* and Mr. M'*Lene,* to report thereon.

The petition of divers freeholders and others, inhabitants of *Lebanon* and *Heidleberg* townſhips, late in the county of *Lancaſter,* read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Work,* Mr. *Clark,* Mr. *Carſon,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Trexler,* to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a committee, to report on the petition and memorial of the Reverend *William Smith,* D. D. and the ballots being taken, it appeared that Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Maclay,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Davis,* Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Clymer,* were duly elected for that purpoſe.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report, poſtponed *March* 14th, on the bill, entituled " *An Act to enable* " *aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money upon* " *mortgages and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt.*"

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *M'Lene* be added to the committee.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petitions of *James Murray* and *Thomas Campbell,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 14th, on the petition of *James M'Manus,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the land-officers to iſſue re-locating* " *warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act for veſting a lot of ground therein deſcribed,* " *with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the truſtees* " *of* Dickinſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumber- " land," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A member preſented to the chair a clauſe, by way of rider to the bill, entituled " *An additional Supplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia* " *of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 19, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Caſper Seirvert,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Berks,* was read, praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 66 inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton,* in the county of *Northampton,* was read, praying the ſaid town may not be erected into a borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Pittſburgh* was read, praying that the paper money emitted *March* 16th, 1785, may be declared a legal tender in payment of the fees of the reſpective officers within this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Reverend *William Smith*, D. D. was read, ſetting forth, that an act of the *Delaware* ſtate was paſſed for the ſettlement of the accounts of the *Wilmington* lottery, originally inſtituted for certain pious and uſeful purpoſes, as well within this ſtate as the ſaid *Delaware* ſtate, and praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the commiſſioners in the ſaid act named to meet and act within this ſtate, for the purpoſe of ſettling the accounts of the ſaid lottery.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of this ſtate was read, ſetting forth, that ſome years ſince money was raiſed, as well by lottery as ſubſcriptions, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge acroſs *Skippack* creek, in the county of *Montgomery*; that in the year 1771 commiſſioners were appointed by the legiſlature of *Pennſylvania* to recover the monies ſo raiſed, and to erect the ſaid bridge, ſince which two of the commiſſioners appointed under the aforeſaid act are deceaſed; therefore praying other commiſſioners may be appointed to execute the aforeſaid truſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Hague*, read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers freemen, inhabitants of *Bucks* county, read *March* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Bucks*, with the addition of Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petitions read *March* 13th and 18th, for and againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*," were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be directed to enquire into and examine the mode of tranſacting the public buſineſs at the offices of the Comptroller-General and Treaſurer of this ſtate, and to report amendments, if they ſhall think neceſſary.

The committee appointed *February* 26th laſt, on the petition of *James Parker*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 6th, on the petition of *John Stump*, *John Frederick Shetzig* and *Martin Snyder*, made report, which was read; and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 27th laſt, on the petition of *Michael Eberle*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 29th laſt, on the petition of a number of the frontier inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Robert Taylor* and *John Hewſon*, read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report on the petition of *James M'Manus*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for granting the ſum of *pounds,* in truſt to the managers of the houſe for the relief and employment of the poor of the city of *Philadelphia,* &c. towards his ſupport for the term of years.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clemſon,* Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Logan,*

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſignend for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the "lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other pur-"poſes therein mentioned," and that it be the order for the day.

The clauſe read yeſterday, by way of a rider to the bill, entituled "*An "Additional Supplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the com-"monwealth of* Pennſylvania," was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

"Whereas, by the preſent militia laws of this ſtate, apprentices above the "age of eighteen years are liable to attend on days of exerciſe, and per-"form their tour of militia duty, and in caſe of neglect, their maſters or "miſtreſſes are compelled to pay the fines incurred on account of ſuch ne-"glect: And whereas it is very prejudicial and injurious to all kinds of trades "and manufactories within this commonwealth, that apprentices under the "age of twenty-one years ſhould be ſubjected to militia duty, or that their "maſters or miſtreſſes ſhould be liable to any fines for their non-attend-"ance:

"Therefore be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That ſo much of the "acts for the regulating the militia of this commonwealth, as requires ap-"prentices under the age of twenty-one years to attend on militia duty, and "which compels their maſters or miſtreſſes to pay the fines incurred on "account of their non-attendance, is hereby repealed, and made null and "void."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An "Act for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of* Northampton "*and* Luzerne," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation of St.* "James, *at* Perkiomen, *in the townſhip of* New-Providence, *and county of* "Montgomery," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for "facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand "ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of "this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which were located be-"fore the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to "actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to exonerate* Joſeph Fry, *door-keeper of the* “ *Houſe of Repreſentatives of the freemen of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſem-* “ *bly, from any charge for rent or other demands for or on account of his occu-* “ *pying of part of the weſtern wing of the State-houſe, and conſuming the herbage* “ *of the State-houſe yard,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to lay a duty on foreign barley and malt import-* “ *ed into this ſtate,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 20, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Reverend *David Jones, William Rogers* and *Robert M'Murdie,* late brigade chaplains in the armies of the United States, was read, praying that they may be entitled to receive five years full pay, in lieu of half pay granted them by an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate, paſſed *April* 10th, 1781.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* of a ſimilar tenor with the petitions read *March* 12th, relative to the preſent mode of enforcing the payment of debts, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 4th, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, incloſing the accounts of *Gunning Bedford* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *November* 28th laſt, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Wayne* and *Derry,* in the county of *Cumberland,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the prayer of their petition be granted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Oliver,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the frontier inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to exonerate from the payment of taxes for years ſuch of the frontier inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, as have been forced to abandon their habitations through force or fear of the *Indians,* and that due care be taken to point out a mode of diſcrimination, by which thoſe who really merit ſuch exoneration may be aſcertained.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Wright* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *A* “ *Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act to regulate the general elections of “ this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein,” which was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *An Act for the purpoſe of granting the ſum of*   *pounds for the relief of* James M‘Manus,” which was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of* Northampton *and* Luzerne,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.”

It was then moved by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Piper,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill, in order to introduce another, which he read in his place.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

To poſtpone the ſaid bill and motion of Mr. *M‘Lene,* in order to introduce a bill, which he requeſted leave to read in his place.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement moved by Mr.* Clymer *and Mr.* Peters?”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *Kennedy,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*

YEAS.

13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Willing,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *John Hopkins,*
21 *Joſeph Lilley,*
22 *Thomas Clingan,*
23 *John Irwin,*
24 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *Valentine Upp,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *Alexander Lowrey,*
4 *James Clemſon,*
5 *Jacob Erb,*
6 *Michael Schmyſer,*

NAYS.

7 *William Mitchell,*
8 *David M‘Clellan,*
9 *Joſeph Reed,*
10 *David Mitchell,*
11 *Thomas Beale,*
12 *Thomas Kennedy,*

NAYS.

13 *John Oliver,*
14 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
15 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
16 *David Davis,*
17 *Joſeph Sands,*
18 *Philip Kreemer,*
19 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
20 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21 *Peter Burkhalter,*
22 *John Piper,*
23 *Jacob Saylor,*
24 *Samuel Maclay,*
25 *John White,*
26 *William Findley,*
27 *James Barr,*

NAYS.

28 *John M'Dowell,*
29 *James Alliſon,*
30 *Alexander Wright,*
31 *John Flenniken,*
32 *Theophilus Philips,*
33 *John Gilchreeſt,*
34 *James M'Lene,*
35 *James M'Calmont,*
36 *Jacob Reiff,*
37 *Robert Lollar,*
38 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
39 *Peter Richards,*
40 *Jacob Miley,*
41 *Robert Clark,*
42 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The motion of Mr. *M'Lene* being again before the Houſe, and he having obtained leave, preſented to the chair the bill he had read in his place, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and con-" firming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them " claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein men-" tioned," which was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Saturday* next, A. M.

Saturday, March 22, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from Dr. *Thomas Bond* was read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of the direction of the Aſſembly of the (late province now) ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* his father attended and adminiſtered phyſic to the *French* Neutrals, then under the care and patronage of *Pennſylvania,* and for which no compenſation hath ever been made; and praying this Houſe to grant him releif in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nicholas Fitzpatrick,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying he may be diſcharged from further confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Davis,* Mr. *Sands,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Nicholas Mantz* was read, ſetting forth, that he was taken priſoner at *Fort Waſhington,* and continued in captivity for a conſiderable time; that after his liberation he was by ſickneſs rendered incapable of giving any aſſiſtance towards the ſupport of himſelf and family; and ſtating that he hath not received any compenſation for his ſufferings during his captivity, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others, to report thereon.

Memorials from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *March* 19th; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they, together with the former petitions, be referred to the members from the county of *Montgomery*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers perſons, purchaſers and owners of certain lots of ground near the city of *Philadelphia*, commonly called the *City Lots*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for confining the limits of aſſeſſment in ſupport of the lamps and watch, and for the regulating and paving the ſtreets of *Philadelphia*, within ſuch reaſonable boundaries, as may include only ſuch eſtates as now are or ſhortly may be benefited thereby.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 600 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, 450 inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, 1884 inhabitants of the county of *Franklin*, and 930 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the conſtitution propoſed by the late Fœderal Convention for the government of the United States, and adopted by the Convention of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of *Pittſburgh*, and the neighbourhood thereof, was read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of permiſſion obtained between the years 1762 and 1768 from the *Britiſh* commanding officers at *Fort Pitt*, they ſettled upon and improved ſeveral parcels of land; that about the time when the land-office opened in 1769, the late proprietaries directed a manor to be run out, including their ſaid improvements; and praying they may be entitled to receive legal titles for thoſe lands, on the terms other inhabitants of this ſtate are permitted to locate and patent their lands under the authority of the commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Evan Owen*, read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 5th, on the petition of *Stephen Foulke*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed *March* 19th, the report on the petitions of *Robert Taylor* and *John Hewſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, appointed *March* 18th, on the petition of *Archibald Irwin*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*" *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to empower the Treaſurer of this ſtate to pay to *Archibald Irwin* all the intereſt due on his certificates of which he is the original holder.

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed *February* 27th laſt, on the petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of the townſhip of *Moyamenſing*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 19th, on the petition of *John Hague*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the petition of *James Cuningham*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report poſtponed *November* 27th laſt, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington*: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to erect part of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* into a ſeparate county, comprehending the town of *Pittſburg*, the boundaries thereof to be as follows, *viz.*

To begin at the mouth of *Raccoon* creek; thence up the ſame to *White*'s mill; thence to the mouth of *Miller*'s run, on *Chartier*'s creek; thence up that creek to *Fowler*'s mill; thence by a direct line to the mouth of *Piery*'s mill run, on the eaſt ſide of *Monongahela* river; thence up that river to the mouth of *Becket*'s run, above *Devore*'s ferry; thence along the road, from the mouth of ſaid run to *Seniſal*'s ferry on the *Yohiogany* river; thence by a line to the mouth of *Bruſh* creek or *Turtle* creek; thence to the forks of ſaid creek; thence by a direct line to the mouth of *Kiſhkimenetas* river; thence up the *Allegany* river to the northern boundary of this ſtate; thence along the ſame to the weſtern line of this ſtate; thence along the ſame to the *Ohio* river; and thence up the ſame to the place of beginning.

Reſolved, That the ſeat of juſtice for the county of *Weſtmoreland* being already fixed by the legiſlature upon due conſideration (as muſt be ſuppoſed) at *Greenſborough*, there can be no juſt reaſon for complying with the petition for a removal.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the firſt of the foregoing reſolutions.

The report read *March* 14th, on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petitions.

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the report be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *March* 14th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the ſame,

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce in lieu thereof the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to divide *Northumberland* county, and to erect a ſeparate county.

It was then moved by Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Kennedy,*

That the further conſideration of the ſaid report and reſolution be poſtponed.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

The report read *March* 17th, on the petition of the miniſters, veſtrymen and church-wardens of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the miniſters, veſtrymen and church-wardens of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia,* report——

That the *German* Lutheran congregation is among the moſt numerous within the city and liberties, and of courſe has many people belonging to it, who are not in circumſtances to pay for the tuition of their children. They are informed, that at this time there are between ſeventy and eighty children taught *gratis,* upon the precarious footing of collections made at the evening ſervice in the church of the ſaid congregation:

The committee, conceiving it to be the deſign of the framers of the conſtitution to provide for ſuch charitable purpoſes, and the Houſe having frequently ſhewn a diſpoſition to encourage uſeful learning,—the committee are induced to ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, granting acres of land out of the unappropriated lands of this commonwealth to the congregation of *German* Lutherans in this city and its vicinity, for endowing a free ſchool for the children of the poor of the ſaid congregation.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The report read *March* 19th, on the petition of *Jacob Stump, Martin Snyder* and *Frederick Schetzig,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report read *March* 19th, on the petition of *James Parker,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the relief of the ſaid *James Parker.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Davis,* Mr. *Sands,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Michael Eberle,* read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of Lieutenant *Michael Eberle,* beg leave to report——

That having maturely conſidered the merits of ſaid petition, are of opinion that there is no exiſting law of this ſtate whereby he can receive relief, and that though general rules ought not to be lightly departed from, yet the legiſlature ought on ſome ſpecial occaſions to make ſome ſpecial proviſions, in order to relieve or alleviate the extraordinary diſtreſſes of ſuch as have ſerved their country at the riſque of their lives, in the courſe of the late war: Therefore,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the ſum of , in behalf of Lieutenant *Michael Eberle*, for which he is to account.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to alter and amend an act, enti- " tuled " *An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated lands within* " *this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* " *Act to alter and amend ſundry parts of the laws of the ſtate relating to the* " *exciſe on ſpirituous liquors imported and brought into this ſtate, and for the* " *better collection of the revenue ariſing from ſpirituous liquors imported into or* " *diſtilled therein*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An Additional SUPPLEMENT *to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania.

An ACT *for deſtroying the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the firſt day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entituled* " An Act for funding and redeeming " the bills of credit of the United States of *America*, and for providing means " to bring the preſent war to an happy concluſion."

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 24, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the Printers of news-papers in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that by a late regulation of the Poſt-Maſter-General of the United States, they are prevented from affording that ſatisfaction to the public of the occurrences in other ſtates as formerly, being deprived of the benefit of a tranſmiſſion of news-papers between this and the other ſtates; and praying this Houſe to inſtruct the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States to procure this their neceſſary and long accuſtomed privilege.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 387 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, remonſtrating againſt the conſtitution propoſed by the late Fœderal Convention for the government of the United States, and adopted by the Convention of this ſtate, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Haſſall* was read, ſetting forth, that he was appointed in the year 1780 ſtore-keeper to the military magazine hoſpital, in the city of *Philadelphia*, and continued to execute the duties of his appointment until the end of the war with *Great-Britain*, and praying he may be entitled to five years full pay, in lieu of half pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petition of *David Hillyer,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 22d, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* relative to the monies raiſed by way of lottery for building a bridge acroſs *Skippack* creek, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition of *Henry Aurandt,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 26th laſt, on the petitions of *John Thom* and *Michael Marks,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* praying that the juſtices of the reſpective counties in general quarter ſeſſions may be authoriſed to regulate public ferries, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed the bill, entituled “*An* “*Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and* “*to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable* “*intereſt,*” together with the report of the committee thereon, read *November* 21ſt laſt, reported a bill, entituled “*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe* “*and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “*An* “*Act to explain and amend an act, entituled* “An Act for the gradual “abolition of ſlavery,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “*An* “*Act for the relief of* James Parker, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of* “*the city and county of* Philadelphia,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “*An* “*Act to eſtabliſh a board of wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other* “*purpoſes therein mentioned,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “*A Supplement to an act, entituled* “An Act to alter “and amend an act, entituled “*An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the* “*unappropriated lands within this ſtate,*” was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of “the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania* in General Aſſembly met, “and by the authority of the ſame, That from and after the   day

“ of   next, the price of the unappropriated lands of the ſtate, within the purchaſe laſt made of the *Indian* nations as aforeſaid, ſhall be   *pounds* for every hundred acres of the ſame, and no more, and ſo in proportion for greater or leſs quantities thereof, and that the ſame price ſhall be payable before the iſſuing of each warrant of ſurvey reſpectively for any quantity thereof, in gold or ſilver money, at the rates after which the ſame are commonly current in this ſtate, or in the bills of credit of this commonwealth which are dated on the   day of   in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, or in certificates of this ſtate, which have been or ſhall be iſſued according to law, and the bearers whereof are entitled to receive of the Treaſurer of this commonwealth an annual intereſt thereon after the rate of ſix *per centum*, half yearly, and no other ſatisfaction for the ſaid price; Provided always, That this act ſhall not extend to any lands which have or which ſhall be ſurveyed, by virtue of any warrant heretofore iſſued for ſurveying of lands within the late purchaſe made by this commonwealth as aforeſaid.”

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Mitchell,*
2 *David M‘Clellan,*
3 *Joſeph Reed,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *John Oliver,*
7 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
8 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Joſeph Sands,*
11 *Philip Kreemer,*
12 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Jacob Saylor,*
16 *Samuel Maclay,*
17 *John White,*

YEAS.

18 *William Findley,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *John Irvine,*
21 *John M‘Dowell,*
22 *James Alliſon,*
23 *Alexander Wright,*
24 *John Flenniken,*
25 *Theophilus Philips,*
26 *John Gilchreeſt,*
27 *James M‘Lene,*
28 *James M‘Calmont,*
29 *Robert Lollar,*
30 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
31 *Jacob Miley,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Saiter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*

NAYS.

11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*

NAYS.

21 *James Clemſon,*
22 *Jacob Erb,*
23 *John Hopkins,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*

NAYS.

25 *Joſeph Lilley,*
26 *Thomas Clingan,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Jacob Reiff.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; and the bill having been debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to* " *encourage the manufactures of this ſtate,*" poſtponed *November* 21ſt laſt, and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On motion of Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Kreemer,*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 25, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 579 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Representatives *of the State of* Pennsylvania, *in* General Assembly *met,*

The Memorial and Petition of a number of the inhabitants of Cheſter *county, on behalf of themſelves and many others ſimilarly ſituated,*

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT many of your petitioners labour under ſeveral grievances which very much impede our progreſs, and lays us under great diſcouragement in the cultivation of our lands. In the firſt place, many of us were in debt for our plantations, and divers others of us mortgaged our eſtates in the loan-office under the former government, hoping through the divine bleſſing to extricate ourſelves in a few years, but were greatly driven back by the winds of adverſity in a variety of incidents in the courſe of the late war; ſince which a circulating medium becoming very ſcarce, creditors are under a neceſſity of calling in their money before it is poſſible to procure it from the produce of the land, (markets of late being low) in conſequence whereof divers plantations have been expoſed to ſale, and many others probably ſoon will, which through the ſcarcity of money will not bring more than half what they coſt us, to the great injury of the creditor, and the irretrievable loſs of many debtors; divers of us feel ourſelves much aggrieved by the extinction of the bills of credit for which we depoſited our deeds in the loan-office, which were expreſly declared ſhould redeem them, and now called upon to pay other money morally impoſſible for many to procure, of which if they fail they muſt in a ſhort time be expelled their habitations and left deſtitute; which circumſtance is very diſtreſſing to many individuals, and truly affecting to their ſympathizing neighbours, more eſpecially when it is conſidered that from principle they did not avail themſelves of an opportunity of paying it in a depreciated currency.

Next, as one great ſtep towards our relief, we wiſh to ſuggeſt whether it be not practicable to lay a prohibition on the importation of a great variety of articles deſigned for ornament, and which are of little or no uſe to the public, yet drain away a large portion of our ſpecie; and ſeveral articles of luxury, rum and diſtilled ſpirits in particular, which is returned to us, inſtead of money, for the ſtaple produce of our land, which, as a mighty deſtroyer, we apprehend is likely to entail poverty, diſgrace and ruin on our country.

Could we but obtain money in lieu thereof, and retrench our remittances, our diſtreſſes would be very much alleviated, a cloud of iniquity removed, and be a means of promoting righteouſneſs amongſt us.

Laſtly, we find ourſelves much aggrieved by the militia law requiring the inhabitants to muſter under ſevere penalties in caſe of refuſal or neglect, which being at a time when heavy taxes are levied, are attended with much diſtreſs and embarraſſment, divers being ſo reduced by multiplied public demands as to be ſcarcely able to procure bread for their families, who being ſo deprived of the means cannot half farm their lands.

We alſo apprehend it to be a waſte of precious time, obſtructive to righteouſneſs, and the real good of the commonwealth, ſuch gatherings frequently ending in drunkenneſs, quarrelling and much profane converſation; while many of your petitioners, who from a conſcientious reſtraint uniformly refuſed compliance, have become great ſufferers on that account, having their property taken from them, and often ſported away in a laviſh manner.

Having no confidence in the arm of fleſh for defence, do apprehend they are entitled to ſuch free and unreſtrained liberty of conſcience as their brethren enjoy in the neighbouring ſtates.

In ſhort, the deſign and ſincere requeſt of your petitioners is, that you may enquire and inſpect the ſituation of the farmer, in which we preſume you will find this repreſentation abundantly verified in every department of your adminiſtration.

If agriculture be the great ſource of wealth, if it be under heaven the baſis of every emergency, if the merchant, the tradeſman, the rich and the poor, are all dependent on its bountiful offspring, if a large number of this uſeful claſs, ſituate on a precipice, fearing the approach of impending ruin, ſhould ſink under the hand of adverſity, may not the conſequence be dreaded by every rank in the community?

Thus having briefly hinted a few facts, we ſubmit them to your weighty deliberation, earneſtly deſiring you may afford ſuch relief in the premiſes as you in wiſdom may ſee meet, which will be gratefully acknowledged, by

Your wellwiſhing friends.

Cheſter county, 2d Month, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry,* read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Will*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Richard Thomas*,
9 *Samuel Evans*,
10 *Townſend Whelen*,
11 *Alexander Lowrey*,
12 *Adam Hubley*,
13 *Joſeph Work*,
14 *John Hopkins*,
15 *Michael Schmyſer*,
16 *William Mitchell*,
17 *Joſeph Lilley*,

YEAS.

18 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
19 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
20 *David Davis*,
21 *Joſeph Sands*,
22 *Philip Kreemer*,
23 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
24 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
25 *Peter Burkhalter*,
26 *Samuel Maclay*,
27 *John White*,
28 *John Irwin*,
29 *Theophilus Philips*,
30 *Robert Lollar*,
31 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
32 *Jacob Miley*,
33 *John Carſon*,
34 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
3 *John Chapman*,
4 *Samuel Foulke*,
5 *Valentine Upp*,
6 *Robert Ralſton*,
7 *James Moore*,
8 *James Clemſon*,
9 *Jacob Erb*,
10 *David M'Clellan*,
11 *Joſeph Reed*,
12 *Thomas Clingan*,
13 *David Mitchell*,
14 *Thomas Beale*,
15 *Thomas Kennedy*,

NAYS.

16 *John Oliver*,
17 *John Piper*,
18 *Jacob Saylor*,
19 *William Findley*,
20 *James Barr*,
21 *John M'Dowell*,
22 *James Alliſon*,
23 *Alexander Wright*,
24 *John Flenniken*,
25 *John Gilchreeſt*,
26 *James M'Lene*,
27 *James M'Calmont*,
28 *Jacob Reiff*,
29 *Robert Clark*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee to report on the aforeſaid petition.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the petition of *Thomas Stokely*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 29th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, reſpecting the unequal toll extorted by millers, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *March* 22d, on the petition of *James Cunningham*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report read *March* 22d, on the petition of *John Hague*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to grant unto *John Hague* the ſum of *pounds*, as a reward for introducing into this ſtate a machine for carding of cotton.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member in his place, with leave of the Houſe, read and preſented to the Speaker a bill, entituled "*A further Act for quieting the diſturbances at* "Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim-"ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Beale*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend an act, entituled* "An Act for aſcertaining "and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands "by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes "therein mentioned," and that it be the order for the day.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the pay-* "*ment of taxes*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to explain and amend an act, entituled* "An "Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*protect and encourage the manufactures of this ſtate*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to lay a duty on foreign barley and malt imported* "*into this ſtate*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of* "*credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for* "*redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for* "*patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independency, and* "*for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for* "*lands by them occupied,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 26, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1004 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* were read, remonſtrating againſt the conſtitution propoſed by the late Fœderal Convention for the government of the United States, and adopted by the Convention of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Sharp,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 17th, 1786, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others, to report thereon.

The petition of divers perſons, owners of certain lots of ground near the city of *Philadelphia,* commonly called *City Lots,* read *March* 22d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The petition of the Reverend *William Smith,* D. D. read *March* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Ebenezer Brady,* read *March* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Barr,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *D. Mitchell,* to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be authoriſed and empowered to count, burn and deſtroy all the money paid by the Truſtees of the general loan-office of this commonwealth to the State Treaſurer, in purſuance of an act, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting " and opening a loan-office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds,*" and to report the amount thereof.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition of *Thomas M'Cormick,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition of *Jacob Beetein,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 22d, on the petition of *Nicholas Fitzpatrick,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Thomas Stokely,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report read *March* 24th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* reſpecting the monies raiſed by way of lottery and ſubſcription for building a bridge acroſs *Skippack* creek in the ſaid county, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Ordered, That the members from the county of *Montgomery* be a committee for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *An Act to ſuſpend an act, entituled* “ An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,” was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That ſo much of the ſaid law as empowers the ſaid commiſſioners to aſcertain and confirm the claims of the ſaid people called *Connecticut Claimants,* and all and every part of the ſaid act which gives any power and authority to the ſaid commiſſioners, be, and the ſame is hereby ſuſpended, and that the ſame powers be not further exerciſed by the ſaid commiſſioners, until the legiſlature of this commonwealth ſhall, by a law for that purpoſe to be enacted, make further proviſion, and regulations in the premiſes, and ſhall direct and require the ſaid commiſſioners to proceed in the exerciſe of their ſaid powers.”

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *M‘Lene,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Valentine Upp,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *Alexander Lowrey,*
4 *James Clemſon,*
5 *Jacob Erb,*
6 *Michael Schmyſer,*
7 *William Mitchell,*
8 *David M‘Clellan,*
9 *Joſeph Reed,*
10 *Thomas Clingan,*
11 *David Mitchell,*
12 *Thomas Beale,*
13 *Thomas Kennedy,*
14 *John Oliver,*
15 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
16 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
17 *David Davis,*
18 *Joſeph Sands,*
19 *Philip Kreemer,*

YEAS.

20 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
21 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
22 *Peter Burkhalter,*
23 *John Piper,*
24 *Jacob Saylor,*
25 *Samuel Maclay,*
26 *John White,*
27 *William Findley,*
28 *James Barr,*
29 *John M‘Dowell,*
30 *James Alliſon,*
31 *Alexander Wright,*
32 *John Flenniken,*
33 *Theophilus Philips,*
34 *John Gilchreeſt,*
35 *James M‘Lene,*
36 *James M‘Calmont,*
37 *Jacob Reiff,*
38 *Robert Lollar,*

YEAS.

39 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
40 *Jacob Miley,*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Will,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop.*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*

YEAS.

41 *Robert Clark,*
42 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Townſend Whelen,*
16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *Joſeph Work,*
18 *John Hopkins,*
19 *Joſeph Lilley,*
20 *John Irvine,*
21 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; and the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Robinſon,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Valentine Upp,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *Alexander Lowrey,*
4 *James Clemſon,*
5 *Jacob Erb,*
6 *Michael Schmyſer,*
7 *William Mitchell,*
8 *David M‘Clellan,*
9 *Joſeph Reed,*
10 *Thomas Clingan,*
11 *David Mitchell,*
12 *Thomas Beale,*
13 *Thomas Kennedy,*
14 *John Oliver,*
15 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
16 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
17 *David Davis,*
18 *Joſeph Sands,*
19 *Philip Kreemer,*
20 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
21 *Thomas Mawhorter,*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*

YEAS.

22 *Peter Burkhalter,*
23 *John Piper,*
24 *Jacob Saylor,*
25 *Samuel Maclay,*
26 *John White,*
27 *William Findley,*
28 *James Barr,*
29 *John M‘Dowell,*
30 *James Alliſon,*
31 *Alexander Wright,*
32 *John Flenniken,*
33 *Theophilus Philips,*
34 *John Gilchreeſt,*
35 *James M‘Lene,*
36 *James M‘Calmont,*
37 *Jacob Reiff,*
38 *Robert Lollar,*
39 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
40 *Jacob Miley,*
41 *Robert Clark,*
42 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

4 *William Will,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*

NAYS.

7 *George Logan,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*

NAYS.

15 *Townſend Whelen,*
16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *Joſeph Work,*
18 *John Hopkins,*
19 *Joſeph Lilley,*
20 *John Irvine,*
21 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the bill, entituled "*A further Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne," and that it be the order for the day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the land-officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of* Northampton *and* Luzerne," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate* Joſeph Fry, *door-keeper of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly, from any charge for rent or other demands for or on account of his occupying of part of the weſtern wing of the State-houſe, and conſuming the herbage of the State-houſe yard,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the purpoſe of granting the ſum of* one hundred pounds, *for the relief of* James M‘Manus," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 27, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants reſiding on and near the river *Coneſtogoe*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſtating that the act, entituled

" *An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the river* Coneſtogoe, *in the county of* " Lancaſter," paſſed the 22d day of *January*, 1774, does not anſwer the good purpoſes intended by the legiſlature, inaſmuch as the fines impoſed by the ſaid act are too great, and the mode of recovery very difficult to the proſecutor; and praying for a reviſion of the ſaid act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *March* 20th laſt, reſpecting the preſent mode of enforcing the payment of debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March* 27, 1788.

SIR,

BY direction of Council I do myſelf the honor to incloſe, for the conſideration of your Honorable Houſe, a repreſentation from the Conſul of his *Britannic* Majeſty—a petition from *Leeſon Simmons*—and a memorial from *Adam Betz*, containing a complaint againſt *Jacob Weaver*, Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace in the county of *Berks*.

I am, SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the repreſentation from *Phineas Bond*, Eſquire, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *Leeſon Simmons* be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *Adam Betz*, and the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted, be referred to the members from the county of *Berks*, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *James Cunningham*, poſtponed *March* 25th.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report on the petitions of *Robert Taylor* and *John Hewſon*, read *March* 22d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of granting to *Robert Taylor* and *John Hewſon*, callicoe printers and bleachers, the ſum of   pounds each, to enable them more effectually to carry on their branches of the manufacturing ſyſtem begun in this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Oliver* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to explain and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for the gradual "abolition of ſlavery," and that it be the order for the day.

The committee appointed *February* 27th, on the petitions praying *Aughwick* and *Standing Stone* creeks may be declared a public highway, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to appoint commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain commiſſioners,* "*who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the ninth day of* March, *one thou-* "*ſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-one, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of* "*certain other commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twen-* "*tieth day of* September, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, were ap-* "*pointed to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery which had been ſet* "*up and drawn for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the* "*then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary* "*donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act more effectually to prevent unfair "practices in the packing of beef and pork for exportation," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*A further Act for* "*quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain perſons,* "*called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* "Luzerne," was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of ſaid bill, in order to introduce a reſolution which Mr. *M'Lene* read in his place,

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted, as follows, *viz.*

"*Reſolved,* That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby "authoriſed and directed to deviſe and take the moſt proper and effectual "meaſures to aſcertain the quantity and quality of each particular tract of land, "included within the townſhips of *Salem, Newport, Hanover, Wilkſbarre,* "*Pittſtown, Northmoreland, Putnam, Miſhoppen, Springfield, Claverick, Ul-* "*ſter, Exeter, Kingſtown, Plymouth, Huntingdon, Bedford* and *Providence,* in "the county of *Luzerne,* and claimed by *Pennſylvania* owners, and report "to this Houſe at their next ſitting, that the Houſe may the better be en- "abled to decide upon the compenſation to be made to them."

The Houſe then reſumed the conſideration of the aforeſaid bill, and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs, On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Schott*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Will,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Willing,*
18 *Townſend Wheelen,*

YEAS.

19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *William Mitchell,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *John Oliver,*
26 *David Davis,*
27 *Jacob Saylor,*
28 *Samuel Maclay,*
29 *John White,*
30 *William Findley,*
31 *James Barr,*
32 *John Irvine,*
33 *James Alliſon,*
34 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
35 *John Carſon,*
36 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *James Clemſon,*
2 *Jacob Erb,*
3 *Michael Schmyſer,*
4 *David M'Clellan,*
5 *Joſeph Reed,*
6 *Thomas Clingan,*
7 *David Mitchell,*
8 *Thomas Beale,*
9 *Thomas Kennedy,*
10 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
11 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
12 *Joſeph Sands,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *Peter Trexler,* jun.

NAYS.

15 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
16 *Peter Burkhalter,*
17 *John Piper,*
18 *John M'Dowell,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Flenniken,*
21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James M'Lene,*
24 *James M'Calmont,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Robert Lollar,*
27 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of the ſuffering inhabitants of* "*the townſhips of* Wayne *and* Derry, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Faculty of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the State of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The Repreſentation of the ſubſcribers, members of the Faculty of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania,*

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT having been appointed to our ſeveral offices in the univerſity, in conſequence of a law of the ſtate, paſſed on the 27th of *November,* 1779, entituled "*An Act for confirming the eſtates and intereſts of the college,* &c." by which the Aſſembly of the ſtate have become the benefactors and guardians of the inſtitution, we account ourſelves reſponſible to you for our conduct. Our duty to you, to the public, and to ourſelves, requires us to take notice of an extraordinary ſentence in a late publication, addreſſed to you by Dr. *William Smith,* the late Provoſt of the college, in the twenty-ſeventh page of his pamphlet.

After ſtating his ſalary at *five hundred and fifty pounds per Annum,* he ſays, "This in eight years amounts to *four thouſand four hundred pounds,* beſides "intereſt juſtly due to him, out of the funds which he created, and which "*hath* been beſtowed upon another man, under whom the ſeminary hath neither encreaſed in reputation nor uſefulneſs; but is ſaid to be more devoted "to political and party cabals, than to the advancement of ſound and real "literature." This aſſertion from a gentleman, who can have ſo little information on the ſubject, muſt appear very extraordinary. He has never been within the walls of the inſtitution ſince his removal from office, ſo as to gain any acquaintance with the progreſs of the ſtudents under our care, nor the mode of inſtruction adopted by the faculty: and if he has received any information from others, we are confident in aſſerting that it is equally unfounded with his own perſonal knowledge. With reſpect to our own qualifications for the duties of our profeſſions, we have nothing to ſay; but with reſpect to our diligence and fidelity, in teaching the ſtudents under our care, we can appeal to the obſervation of our fellow-citizens, the knowledge of the truſtees, and the teſtimony of the pupils under our care, that we have never taken the liberty of diſappointing them, by non-attendance, for a ſingle day, ſince our connection with the inſtitution; for if any of us were neceſſarily abſent for a day, which but ſeldom happened, his claſs was inſtructed by another, who doubled his labours for that time. Nor do we deem it an exception, that the Provoſt was abſent from the univerſity for a few months, in the year 1784; as this was occaſioned by the expreſs appointment of the Honorable Aſſembly and Executive Council of the ſtate, with the conſent of the Truſtees; and on public buſineſs of the ſtate, in which his aſtronomical knowledge was deemed requiſite.

The Truſtees, who frequently viſit the inſtitution, and particularly enquire into the ſtate of the ſchools, the progreſs of the ſtudents, and the conduct of the profeſſors and tutors, are certainly better judges of our fidelity and aſſiduity, in the buſineſs of inſtruction, than Dr. *Smith*, who was never preſent at the examination of a ſingle claſs in the univerſity. To theſe gentlemen we appeal for a teſtimony of our fidelity and diligence; by whoſe report you will be able to judge, what foundation Dr. *Smith* has for his unprovoked attack upon the reputation of the univerſity and its profeſſors.

In the mean time, for the fuller ſatisfaction of your Honorable Houſe, and of your conſtituents at large, permit us, among other evidences, to ſubjoin the unbiaſſed teſtimony of a foreigner of diſtinction, and of acknowledged merit in the literary and philoſophic world; we mean the *Marquis de Chaſtellux*, who viſited our univerſity, and was preſent at one of our commencements. Speaking of the inſtitution, in his travels through *North-America*, volume 1, page 229, he ſays, " I had the gratification of being preſent at a " public exhibition at the college, at which the Congreſs, the Preſident and " Executive Council of the ſtate, General Waſhington, the *French* Miniſter, " and all the ſtrangers of diſtinction aſſiſted. Some excellent declamations were " made in *Latin* and in *Engliſh* by the young men who were about to leave " college, and obtain degrees, by no means inferior to thoſe I have heard in " *Oxford* and *Cambridge*. Their compoſitions, in general, were elegant, and " their elocution eaſy, dignified and manly; but, whatever was the ſubject, " the great cauſe of liberty and their country was never loſt ſight of, nor their " abhorrence of the tyranny of *Britain*." He goes on to obſerve the influence which ſuch an education will have on the liberty and independence of *America*; to which obſervations we beg leave to refer the guardians of the liberties of *Pennſylvania*.

Permit us, gentlemen, to infer, that if, in the opinion of unprejudiced and able judges, our reputation for the literary accompliſhments of our pupils, and our care to inſtil into their tender minds the exalted principles of liberty and love of their country, ſtands upon a level with the reputation of the ancient univerſities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, we need not be very ſolicitous about the illiberal and groundleſs aſſertion of Dr. *Smith*, when he ſays, that " the ſeminary has neither encreaſed in reputation nor uſefulneſs, but is ſaid to be more " devoted to political and party cabals, than to the advancement of ſound " and real literature." If by " political and party cabals" he means to reproach our care to inſtruct our pupils in the great principles of liberty and love of their country, we openly avow it, and glory in the reproach. But if he deſigns, by the aſſertion, to give currency to the unſupported ſuſpicions, that any of the anonymous and abuſive publications, which have taken their riſe from the political diſputes of this ſtate, have been the productions of any of our pens, we take the liberty of aſſuring your Honorable Houſe, and our fellow-citizens at large, that the charge is without any juſt foundation; and we challenge him, with the aſſiſtance of all the printers in *Philadelphia*, to prove us, or any of us, to have been the authors of any ſuch publications.

Although we are neither aſhamed nor afraid to avow our political ſentiments, where we profeſs to have any; and as freemen, having a common intereſt in the happineſs of our country, we have as good a right as any other perſons to expreſs our opinions, either in private or in public, for the information of others, when we think it prudent or neceſſary; yet this is neither neceſſary nor convenient for us. The ſubjects of public diſcuſſion, in this ſtate, have been ſufficiently treated without our aſſiſtance; and we are too cloſely employed in the buſineſs of our profeſſions to find time to take an active part in the political diſputes of the ſtate, either by intermixing with their councils, or by writing for the public information, and much leſs to abuſe the characters either of private perſons or public bodies, by illiberal invectives. So that you ſee what little foundation there was for reproaching our univerſity, as "more devoted to political and party cabals, than to the "advancement of ſound and real literature;" and what little credit is due to the aſſertions of a man, who, without any evidence, would endeavour to impoſe upon you, by the introduction of an illiberal reflection upon us, and the inſtitution under our care, when it had no other connection with his application to the Aſſembly, than poſſibly to inſinuate how much better the youth of the ſtate would be inſtructed, in the principles of liberty and the various branches of literature, under him, than under the tuition of the preſent profeſſors.

We would have taken no notice of the above groundleſs imputation, had it not been from an apprehenſion, that it might poſſibly have an undue influence upon the minds of ſome members of your Honorable Houſe, who may be deſtitute of the means of acquiring better information on the ſubject, than what is contained in Dr. *Smith*'s pamphlet.

JOHN EWING,
JAMES DAVIDSON,
ROBERT PATTERSON.

Univerſity, 27th March, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *March* 18th, on the petition and memorial of the Reverend *William Smith,* D. D.

The petition of the printers of news-papers in the city of *Philadelphia,* read *March* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *J. Heiſter,* to report a draught of inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, if they deem it neceſſary.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,*

Reſolved, That the Treaſurer of this ſtate, as ſoon as he ſhall have prepared the ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds* to be burnt, agreeably to the act, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate,*" he ſhall notify two or more members of the committee of accounts, and two or more members of the ſaid committee ſhall forthwith meet, and count, burn and deſtroy the ſame, ſhould it happen in the receſs of Aſſembly, and report to this Houſe at their next ſitting.

The committee appointed *March* 26th, on the petition of divers owners and purchaſers of *City Lots,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Thomas Stokely,* poſtponed yeſterday,

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*"—

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for granting Captain *Thomas Stokely* the commutation on his half pay as Captain of a ranging company, in the ſervice of this ſtate during the war.

It was carried in the negative.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair the bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for granting to* John Hewſon *and* Robert Taylor, *callicoe printers and bleachers, the ſum of* *pounds each, as an encouragement to them to carry on in as extenſive a manner as poſſible ſaid branches of buſineſs,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend ſundry parts of the laws of the ſtate, relating to the exciſe on ſpirituous liquors, imported and brought into this ſtate, and for the better collection of the revenue ariſing from ſpiritous liquors imported into or diſtilled therein,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 28, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Blackall William Ball,* late a lieutenant in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu of that which he hath ſo loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from *Thomas Wilſon* was read, ſetting forth, that he placed in the continental loan-office, in the year 1779, the ſum of *ſeven thouſand one hundred and ſixty pounds,* and for which he hath received no more than two years intereſt; that owing to the ſtagnation of trade, as well as the intereſt on the aforeſaid ſum being with-held from him, he was compelled to borrow money on mortgage from the truſtees of the general loan-office, to be repaid by certain inſtalments, and is now rendered unable to make thoſe payments, and praying the Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 25th, on the petitions of 579 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 22d, on the petition of *Evan Owen,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 19th, on the petition of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* reſpecting the conduct of *Thomas Dyer,* Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 3d, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburgh,* relative to the diviſion line between the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the accounts of *Robert Smith, George Schloſſer* and *Rowland Evans,* truſtees of the loan-office, reſpecting the *fifty thouſand pounds* emitted on loan, agreeably to act of General Aſſembly, paſſed *April* the 4th, 1785; and find ſaid truſtees have loaned out the ſaid ſum on ſeven hundred and thirty-ſix mortgages, - - - -	£ 50000	0	0
That they have received of the principal of ſaid loan, on or before the firſt of *March* inſtant, - -	9975	0	2
That they have re-loaned of ſaid principal received, -	7322	0	0
And that they have paid into the hands of the ſtate treaſurer the reſidue of ſaid principal ſum received, amounting to	2653	0	2
Which ſaid laſt mentioned ſum we have examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.			
The committee likewiſe report, that they find the ſaid truſtees have received of intereſt, on or before ſaid firſt of *March* inſtant, on account of ſaid loan, the ſum of -	3451	17	2
That they have paid out of that ſum, for expences on account of ſaid loan-office, including the truſtees and clerks ſalaries until the firſt of *December* laſt paſt, the ſum of -	1347	12	8
That they have paid the remaining ſum of ſaid intereſt received unto the ſtate treaſurer, as per receipt, amounting to	2104	4	6
And that there is now due to the ſtate, on account of ſaid loan, on ſix hundred and ninety-ſix mortgages, the ſum of - - - - - -	47364	19	10

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to enforce the due collection and "payment of taxes within this commonwealth," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to explain* "*and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for the purpoſe of granting the ſum of* one hundred pounds, *for the relief of* James M'Manus.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the meaſurement of corn and ſalt, imported into the port of *Philadelphia.*"

An ACT *for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of* Northampton *and* Luzerne.

An ACT *for deſtroying the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entituled* " An Act for funding and redeeming the bills of credit of the United States of *America*, and for providing means to bring the preſent war to a happy concluſion."

An Additional SUPPLEMENT *to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania.

An ACT *to exonerate* Joſeph Fry, *door-keeper of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly, from any charge for rent or other demands for or on account of his occupying of part of the weſtern wing of the State-houſe, and conſuming the herbage of the State-houſe yard.*

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Peters*,

Relative to the inſtitution of an office to which the holder of any certificate of this ſtate may take the ſame, and have the amount thereof entered to his credit, on a book kept for that purpoſe, when the certificate ſo entered ſhall be defaced, and a new one given to the holder thereof for the ſame amount; which ſaid new certificate ſhall not be transferred but at the ſaid office, by the owner thereof, or his attorney.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *March* 25th, on the petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act more " effectually to prevent unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for " exportation," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for* " *the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to appoint commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the ninth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-one, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of certain other commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twentieth day of* September, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery which had been ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting to* John Hewſon *and* Robert Taylor, *callicoe printers and bleachers, the ſum of* pounds *each, as an encouragement to them to carry on in as extenſive a manner as poſſible ſaid branches of buſineſs,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to explain and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *Clark,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Willam Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*

YEAS.

11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Jacob Erb,*
19 *William Mitchell,*
20 *Joſeph Reed,*

YEAS.

21 *David Mitchell,*
22 *Thomas Beale,*
23 *Thomas Kennedy,*
24 *John Oliver,*
25 *David Davis,*
26 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
27 *John Piper,*
28 *Jacob Saylor,*
29 *William Findley,*
30 *James Barr,*

YEAS.

31 *James Alliſon,*
32 *Alexander Wright,*
33 *John Flenniken,*
34 *John Gilchreeſt,*
35 *James M'Lene,*
36 *James M'Calmont,*
37 *Jacob Reiff,*
38 *Robert Lollar,*
39 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
40 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *Samuel Evans,*
2 *Richard Willing,*
3 *Alexander Lowrey,*
4 *Joſeph Work,*
5 *Michael Schmyſer,*
6 *David M'Clellan,*
7 *Joſeph Lilley,*
8 *Thomas Clingan,*

NAYS.

9 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
10 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
11 *Philip Kreemer,*
12 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *Robert Clark,*
16 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting in* Thomas Gordon, *his heirs and "aſſigns, certain eſtates forfeited to this commonwealth by virtue of his attainder "of high treaſon,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* James Parker, *an inſolvent "debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 29, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 519 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying that the conſtitution propoſed for the government of the United States of *America* by the late Fœderal Convention may not be adopted, and ſetting forth the conduct of the majority of the deputies of the general convention, appointed by this ſtate, is reprehenſible, and that they ſhould be brought to account for the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Thomas M'Clea* and *John Emerſon,* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland,* were read, praying to be releaſed from their impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Davis,* Mr. *Sands,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, ſetting forth, that the laws now in force for making and repairing public highways are inadequate to the great object for which they were intended, and praying for a reviſion of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the Juſtices of the Peace and other officers of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, ſetting forth, that the Court-houſe and Priſon in and for the ſaid county are inſufficient to accommodate the public ſervice of the ſaid county, and ſtating that about *one thouſand pounds* have been levied and nearly collected, for erecting the aforeſaid buildings, and for which purpoſe no more than *one hundred and eighty pounds ſeven ſhillings and one penny* have been expended; therefore praying the act, entituled "*An Act* "*to ſuſpend the powers of the truſtees of the county of* Weſtmoreland, *and for* "*ſettling their accounts,*" may be ſuſpended, in order to enable the ſaid truſtees to compleat the aforeſaid court-houſe and priſon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 70 inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Franklin.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 888 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be removed from *Greenſborough* to the waters of *Conemaugh.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of this ſtate, read *February* 28th laſt, tranſmitting a letter from his Excellency the Governor of the ſtate of *Maſſachuſetts*, together with the amendments propoſed by the late Convention of that ſtate to the Fœderal Conſtitution, recommended for the government of the United States, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the letter from his Excellency the Governor of *Maſſachuſetts*, together with the propoſed amendments, be inſerted on the minutes, *viz.*

Boston, *February* 16th, 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting to your Excellency a copy of the proceedings of the Convention of the people of this commonwealth, lately aſſembled in this town, in conformity to a reſolution of the general court of the ſaid commonwealth, with their aſſent to and ratification of the conſtitution for the United States of *America*, reported to Congreſs by the Convention of delegates from the ſaid United States, together with certain amendments and alterations recommended to be introduced into the ſaid conſtitution, which we wiſh may meet with the concurrence of your ſtate.

I have the honor to be,
With great eſteem and reſpect,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
JOHN HANCOCK.

His Excellency
Benjamin Franklin, *Eſq;*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In CONVENTION *of the* Delegates *of the* People *of the* Commonwealth *of* Massachusetts, *February 6th*, 1788.

THE Convention, having impartially diſcuſſed and fully conſidered the conſtitution for the United States of *America*, reported to Congreſs by the Convention of Delegates from the United States of *America*, and ſubmitted

mitted to us by a reſolution of the General Court of the ſaid commonwealth, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of *October* laſt paſt; and acknowledging with grateful hearts the goodneſs of the Supreme Ruler of the Univerſe, in affording the people of the United States, in the courſe of his Providence, an opportunity, deliberately and peaceably, without fraud or ſurprize, of entering into an explicit and ſolemn compact with each other, by aſſenting to and ratifying a new conſtitution, in order to form a more perfect union, eſtabliſh juſtice, inſure domeſtic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and ſecure the bleſſings of liberty to themſelves and their poſterity; do, in the name and in behalf of the people of the commonwealth of *Maſſachuſetts*, aſſent to and ratify the ſaid conſtitution for the United States of *America*.

And as it is the opinion of this Convention, that certain amendments and alterations in the ſaid conſtitution would remove the fears and quiet the apprehenſions of many of the good people of this commonwealth, and more effectually guard againſt an undue adminiſtration of the fœderal government; the Convention do therefore recommend that the following alterations and proviſions be introduced into the ſaid conſtitution:

Firſt. That it be explicitly declared, that all powers not expreſly delegated by the aforeſaid conſtitution, are reſerved to the ſeveral ſtates, to be by them exerciſed.

Secondly. That there ſhall be one repreſentative to every thirty thouſand perſons, according to the cenſus mentioned in the conſtitution, until the whole number of the repreſentatives amounts to two hundred.

Thirdly. That Congreſs do not exerciſe the powers veſted in them by the fourth ſection of the firſt article, but in caſes when a ſtate ſhall neglect or refuſe to make the regulations therein mentioned, or ſhall make regulations ſubverſive of the rights of the people to a free and equal repreſentation in Congreſs, agreeably to the conſtitution.

Fourthly. That Congreſs do not lay direct taxes but when the monies ariſing from the impoſt and exciſe are inſufficient for the public exigencies; nor then, until Congreſs ſhall have firſt made a requiſition upon the ſtates, to aſſeſs, levy and pay their reſpective proportions of ſuch requiſition, agreeably to the cenſus fixed in the ſaid conſtitution, in ſuch way and manner as the legiſlature of the ſtate ſhall think beſt, and in ſuch caſe, if any ſtate ſhall neglect or refuſe to pay its proportion purſuant to ſuch requiſition, then Congreſs may aſſeſs and levy ſuch ſtate's proportion, together with intereſt thereon at the rate of ſix per cent. per annum, from the time of payment preſcribed in ſuch requiſition.

Fifthly. That Congreſs erect no company of merchants, with excluſive advantages of commerce.

Sixthly. That no perſon ſhall be tried for any crime by which he may incur an infamous puniſhment, or loſs of life, until he be firſt indicted by a Grand Jury, except in ſuch caſes as may ariſe in the government and regulation of the land and naval forces.

Seventhly. The Supreme Judicial Fœderal Court ſhall have no juriſdiction of cauſes between citizens of different ſtates, unleſs the matter in diſpute, whether it concerns the realty or perſonalty, be of the value of three thouſand dollars at the leaſt: nor ſhall the fœderal judicial powers extend to any actions between citizens of different ſtates, where the matter in diſpute, whether it concerns the realty or perſonalty, is not of the value of fifteen hundred dollars at the leaſt, *Eighthly.* In civil actions between citizens of different ſtates, every iſſue of fact ariſing in actions at common law ſhall be tried by a jury, if the parties, or either of them, requeſt it.

Ninthly. Congreſs ſhall at no time conſent that any perſon, holding an office of truſt or profit under the United States, ſhall accept of a title of nobility, or any other title or office, from any King, Prince or foreign ſtate.

And the Convention do, in the name and in behalf of the people of this commonwealth, enjoin it upon their Repreſentatives in Congreſs at all times, until the alterations and proviſions aforeſaid have been conſidered agreeably to the fifth article of the ſaid conſtitution, to exert all their influence, and uſe all reaſonable and legal methods, to obtain a ratification of the ſaid alterations and proviſions, in ſuch manner as is provided in the ſaid article.

And that the United States in Congreſs aſſembled may have due notice of the aſſent and ratification of the ſaid conſtitution by this Convention: It is

Reſolved, That the aſſent and ratification aforeſaid be engroſſed on parchment, together with the recommendation and injunction aforeſaid, and with this reſolution; and that His Excellency *John Hancock*, Eſquire, Preſident, and the Honorable *William Cuſhing*, Eſquire, Vice-Preſident of this Convention, tranſmit the ſame, counterſigned by the Secretary of the Convention, under their hands and ſeals, to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

JOHN HANCOCK, *Preſident,*
WILLIAM CUSHING, *Vice-Preſident.*

GEORGE RICHARDS MINOT, *Secretary.*

PURSUANT to the reſolution aforeſaid, We, the Preſident and Vice-Preſident above named, do hereby tranſmit to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled the ſame reſolution, with the above aſſent and ratification of the conſtitution aforeſaid for the United States, and the recommendation and injunction above ſpecified.

In witneſs whereof we have hereunto ſet our hands and ſeals, at Boſton, *in the commonwealth aforeſaid, this ſeventh day of* February, Anno Domini *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight, and in the twelfth year of the independence of the United States of* America.

JOHN HANCOCK, *Preſident,* (*Seal.*)
WILLIAM CUSHING, *Vice-Preſident.* (*Seal.*)

(True Copy.)

Atteſt. JOHN AVERY, *jun. Secretary.*

The committee of ways and means made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means report——

That with an anxious deſire of obtaining information reſpecting the funds of the ſtate, they have applied at different times to the Comptroller-General for ſuch ſtatements of the public revenues and expences, as would enable them to lay before the Houſe a brief view of the actual ſituation of the public finances, without which they conceive it is impracticable for the repreſentatives of the people to provide for the exigencies of government, with a due regard to the intereſt of their conſtituents.

The delay which has neceſſarily occurred in obtaining theſe ſtatements, is a ſufficient evidence of the neceſſity of making ſuch an arrangement in the offices of the Treaſurer and Comptroller-General, as will prevent delays of a like kind in future.

One of the ſtatements has been ſo recently received, as renders it impracticable for the committee to give it the conſideration it merits.

Such obſervations as have occurred to the committee, with the reſolutions founded thereon, they ſubmit to the wiſdom of the Houſe.

Under the article of militia fines,—It appears that there has been received into the public treaſury, between the firſt of *January*, 1785, and firſt of *November*, 1787, a term of two years and ten months, £ 6,769 4.

Upon this the committee remark—that the ſum appears ſo extremely ſhort of the fines actually incurred, as induces a belief that either ſufficient diligence is not uſed in the collection of theſe fines, or that they are withheld from the public treaſury by the perſons who receive them.

Under the article of taxes, *&c.*—They find, that there was received into the public treaſury, between the firſt of *January*, 1785, and firſt of *November*, 1787, £ 527,542 6 4.

And that there was paid, under what is called the funding ſyſtem, in that time, £ 466,380 3 7.

In which is included 685,557 dollars, paid to the United States in ſpecie. The committee are clearly of opinion, that the ſpecie payments aforeſaid exceed the ſum directed by law 128,506 dollars, owing, as the committee believe, to the officers making the requiſition of Congreſs, rather than the laws of the ſtate, the rule of their conduct in making ſuch payments.

Over and above the aforeſaid ſum of 128,506 dollars, there appears to have been ſeveral ſums paid to penſioners, which ought to have been deducted from the payments made to the United States, and increaſes the diſability of this ſtate to make good its actual engagements.

From the ſtatements of appropriations furniſhed by the Comptroller-General, it appears that there are ſeveral conſiderable revenues which are not ſpecially appropriated, and ſome of the neceſſary expences of government for which no ſtated proviſion is made.

The committee remark too, that the General Aſſembly are in the practice of making grants of money without deſignating the funds from which ſuch monies are to ariſe, or having ſuch information reſpecting the ſtate of their treaſury, as would enable them to judge how far it may be in the power of the Treaſurer to comply with the law.

Upon theſe ſeveral points the committee ſubmit the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſted to call upon the reſpective County Lieutenants within this ſtate, for the actual returns of all perſons within their reſpective counties made ſubject by law to the performance of militia duties, together with a return of the perſons who have actually attended on muſter days within the years 1785, 1786 and 1787, and that ſuch returns be laid before the General Aſſembly at their next ſeſſion.

Reſolved, That the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in the accounts which he is directed to furniſh the General Aſſembly, ſtate ſpecially the ſums received from the different branches of the revenue, and thoſe paid under the laws of the commonwealth, under their reſpective heads of appropriation; and that the Comptroller-General regulate his ſtatements conformably.

Reſolved, That the Treaſurer inform this Houſe, at their next ſeſſion, upon what authority he has made payments to the United States to the amount charged in his accounts.

Reſolved, That it is the duty of the Executive powers and of the officers of this government, in the drafts or payments which they reſpectively make for the public ſervice, to adhere ſtrictly to the appropriations made by law.

GENERAL STATE of the RECEIPTS *and* PAYMENTS *at the State Treaſury,*

from the firſt of January 1785, *till the firſt of* November 1787, *digeſted in the order of the appropriations.*

Of the Impoſt Duties before March 1784.

Balance in the treaſury, at ſettlement till the 1ſt January 1785,	£ 2582	0	9½	Paid by order of Council to the Wardens for improvement of the navigation of the bay and river Delaware, per reſolution of General Aſſembly, September 24th 1783, in 1785,	£ 4100	0	0			
Received from Doctor Phile, in 1785,	1384	2	0	Ditto, in 1787,	250	0	0			
Balance carried down, vide contra,	1713	10	9½	Ditto, reſiduary payments of five and an half months pay to the officers of the Pennſylvania line, per reſolution of September 22d 1783,	1329	13	7			
	£ 5679	13	7					£ 5679	13	7

Of the Impoſt Duties from March *till* November 1784, *and ſales of the Barracks in* Philadelphia *and the Lots belonging thereto.*

Received from January 1785, till November 1787, on ſaid duties,	£ 42883	10	4	Balance of contra above,	£ 1713	10	9½			
Ditto, ſales of the barracks, &c.	7234	11	4	Paid on orders of Council to the proprietaries, per act 9th February 1785,	21368	15	0			
				Ditto, intereſt on funded depreciation certificates, per act March 25th 1786,	16793	8	6			
				Ditto, in part of £ 2000, granted for repairing and opening a highway from Miller's Springs, in Cumberland county, to Pittſburgh, per act 21ſt September 1785,	525	15	0			
				Balance carried to account of unappropriated revenues,	9716	12	4½			
	£ 50118	1	8					£ 50118	1	8

Of the Tonnage Duties collected by the Tonnage Officer.

Received from January 1785, till January 1786, excluſive of Wardens wages, &c.	£ 1271	3	3	Paid on the order of the Wardens, per act 26th February 1773, to ſupport the light houſe, buoys, beacons, &c. in the river, from January 1785, till November 1787,	4349	7	3			
Ditto from January 1786, till January 1787,	1498	4	0							
Ditto from January 1787, till November 1787,	1580	0	0							
	£ 4349	7	3					£ 4349	7	3

Of the Militia Fines.

Received from January 1785, till November 1787,	£ 6769	4	$0\frac{1}{2}$		Paid, by order of Council, ſundry militia debts, expences of exerciſing and training the militia, and penſions to the widows and families of militia killed in battle, per act March 20th 1780,	£ 7153 18 3
Balance carried to unappropriated revenues,	384	14	$2\frac{1}{2}$			
				£ 7153 18 3		

Of the Claſs Taxes.

Received from January 1785, till November 1787,	£ 169	0	0		Paid, by orders of Council, balances due on recruiting accounts, per act June 25th 1781 - - -	£ 225 9 3
Balance carried to unappropriated revenues,	56	9	3			
				£ 225 9 3		

Of the Taxes of 1782 *and* 1783, *the Bills of Credit of* 1785, *and the Annual Taxes directed by acts of* September 23*d* 1783, *and* 16*th* March 1785, *and the Impoſt Duties per acts* December 23*d* 1780, 25*th* September 1783, *and* 15*th* March 1784.

Received of the ſaid taxes from 16th March 1785, till the 1ſt November 1787, -	317815	8	6
Received within the period aforeſaid, for impoſt duties, per acts aforeſaid, - -	109726	17	10
Received the bills of credit aforeſaid, - -	100000	0	0
Carried over,	£ 527542	6	4

The acts for raiſing the effective ſupplies of 1782 and 1783 directed the whole of the former and one half of the latter to be paid by the treaſurer, on the drafts of the ſuperintendant of finance, the continental treaſurer, or other officer of the United States, duly authoriſed to receive the ſame. The act of March 16th 1785, after leaving proviſion according to reſolution of Aſſembly of the 17th February 1785, for paying ſo much as, together with the payments previouſly made, ſhould amount to 560397 dollars, directs that the reſidue of the ſaid taxes, ſo far as releaſed from other appropriations, ſhould be applied to pay the intereſt to the public creditors of this ſtate; the ſum then paid agreeably to the acts aforeſaid was $431773\frac{11}{90}$ dollars. By the act of March 8th 1786, the requiſition of 1785 is adopted, the quota of this ſtate therein was 410378 dollars, which with the 560397 dollars aforeſaid, is - -	*Dol.* 970775
And by acts of Congreſs, this ſtate was allowed to diſcharge in facilities and payments of intereſt thereout, the ſum of -	$327026\frac{30}{90}$
Balance to be paid, -	$643748\frac{60}{90}$
Carried over, -	*Dol.* $643748\frac{60}{90}$

Of the Taxes of 1782 *and* 1783, *the Bills of Credit of* 1785, *and the Annual Taxes directed by acts of* September 23d 1783, *and* 16*th* March 1785, *and the Impoſt Duties per acts* December 23d 1780, 25*th* September 1783, *and* 15*th* March 1784.

Brought over,	£ 527542 6 4	Brought over,	*Dol.* $643748\frac{60}{90}$	
		From which take the payments made as aforeſaid,	$431773\frac{11}{90}$	
		Leaves,	*Dol.* $211975\frac{49}{90}$	
		Of which there was paid to the United States by the treaſurer, in 1785,	£ 23292 2 9	
		Ditto, in 1786,	27299 4 4	
		Ditto, in 1787,	7878 9 10	
			58469 16 11	
		Paid to penſioners in 1785, per act 22d September 1785, in part diſcharge of ſaid requiſition,	4102 12 1	
		Amount paid,		£ 62572 9 0
		Paid Thomas Smith, Eſq; continental loan-officer, for paying intereſt to public creditors of Pennſylvania, per act 16th March 1785,		100385 6 8
		Intereſt paid till 1ſt November 1787, on certificates of funded debt, and new loan certificates, per act laſt aforeſaid, and the law paſſed March 1ſt 1786,		263422 7 11
		Bills of credit burnt per act 16th March 1785,		40000 0 0
		Balance carried down,		61162 2 9
	£ 527542 6 4			£ 527542 6 4
Balance of the aforeſaid account,	£ 61162 2 9	Paid intereſt on new loan and militia certificates before November 1ſt 1787, not brought into the above account,	£ 1321 3 11	
		Ditto intereſt notes paid in taxes or exchanged, redeemed and ſunk out of the taxes of 1783, appropriated per act March 21ſt 1783, 1785 and 1786,	15674 12 6	
		Ditto for apprehending and ſecuring Britiſh deſerters, out of the ſupplies of 1782, per act April 13th 1782, to be repaid by the ſuperintendant of finance, 1785,	18 13 3	
Carried forward,	£ 61162 2 9	Carried forward,	£ 17014 9 8	

Of the Taxes of 1782 *and* 1783, *the Bills of Credit of* 1785, *and the Annual Taxes directed by acts of* September 23*d* 1783, *and* 16*th* March 1785, *and the Impoſt Duties per acts* December 23*d* 1780, 25*th* September 1783, *and* 15*th* March 1784.

Brought forward, - -		£ 61162 2 9
		£ 61162 2 9

Brought forward, -		£ 17014 9 8	
Paid expences of paper, printing and preparing the bills of credit, charged hereon per act 16th March 1785, - -		1097 13 9	
Ditto, per act of January 31ſt 1783, by the different county treaſurers, penſions out of the ſupplies of 1782 and 1783, in 1785, -		2748 5 4	
Ditto by the county treaſurers, out of the taxes received by them, per act 12th March 1778, compenſation for ſervants enliſted in the continental army, the receipts and orders for which are paſſed by them into the treaſury as caſh, in 1785,		1161 12 0	
Ditto by the county treaſurers to penſioners diſabled in the ſervice of the United States, per act 18th September 1777, and paid by them to the treaſury as ſpecie, on account of the taxes,		598 2 6	
Ditto the widows and children of commiſſioned officers their half pay, per acts March 1ſt 1780, and October 1ſt 1781, to be paid out of the impoſt duties of December 22d 1780, and the ſtate taxes which may be received by the county treaſurers, per reſolution of Aſſembly, September 25th 1783, and act of March 1ſt 1780 aforeſaid, in 1785, -	£ 4292 19 4½		
1786, - -	3265 17 10		
1787, -	1860 17 10		
		9419 15 0½	
Bills of credit detained by Mr. Francis Wade, one of the ſigners, to whom it was delivered for ſigning, - - -		2750 0 0	
Balance November 1ſt 1787, - -		26372 4 5½	
			£ 61162 2 9

Note. At this time the treaſurer had not commenced paying the half year's intereſt on the original ſtate debt, which fell due the firſt of July preceding, nor the half year's intereſt which was payable on the new loan the firſt of October preceding, which, with another half year's intereſt on ſaid original ſtate debt, hath been ſince principally diſcharged, ſo that the anticipation above is now at leaſt fully reimburſed from other funds not ſpecially appropriated. It is alſo obſervable that moſt of the annual taxes for pleaſurable carriages, appropriated to ſupport of government, have been paid by the county treaſurers as of the quota taxes, and carried to this fund.

Of the Bills of Credit emitted on Loan.

Received from the ſigners in bills, per act March 16th 1785,	£ 50000 0 0			
	£ 50000 0 0			

Paid, per orders of council, to the truſtees of the loan-office, per act April 4th 1785, in 1785,	£ 39600 0 0	
Ditto, in 1786,	10400 0 0	
		£ 50000 0 0

Of the Intereſt upon the Certificates for the Depreciation of the Pay of the Army.

Received exciſe, in 1785,	£ 13840 0 9½	
Ditto, in 1786,	15519 9 1	
Ditto, in 1787,	12324 9 6½	
		£ 41683 19 5

Paid intereſt upon funded depreciation certificates, from 21ſt March 1783, till 1ſt November 1787, per act March 21ſt 1783,		£ 83023 0 8	
Paid before January 1785,	£ 24545 12 9		
Ditto out of the impoſt duties,	16793 8 6		
		41339 1 3	
			£ 41683 19 5

Of the Effective Supplies of 1781.

Received, from 16th March till 31ſt Dec. 1784,	£ 868 15 10	
Ditto, in 1785,	662 11 5	
Ditto, in 1786,	1959 1 9	
Ditto, in 1787,	97 8 3½	
Balance carried to account of unappropriated revenues,	2912 2 8½	
		£ 6500 0 0

Paid James Meaſe, Eſquire, per reſolution March 16th 1784, in 1785,	£ 5177 15 0	
Ditto, paid before January 1785,	1322 5 0	
		£ 6500 0 0

Of the Tax upon Writs, and upon Pleaſurable Carriages, and the Duties on Sales by the Auctioneers.

Received on account of tax on writs, in 1785,	£ 2258 12 3
Ditto, in 1786,	2470 1 4
Carried forward,	£ 4728 13 7

Paid wages and mileage of members of aſſembly, per acts 27th December 1781 and 17th September 1785, in 1785,	£ 9517 13 0
Carried forward,	£ 9517 13 0

Of the Tax upon Writs, and upon Pleaſurable Carriages, and the Duties on Sales by the Auctioneers.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 4728	13	7						
Received on account of tax on writs, in 1787,	1717	2	6	£ 6445	16	1			
Ditto on account of annual tax on pleaſurable carriages, in 1786,	642	12	5						
Ditto, in 1787,	973	9	7½	1616	2	0½			
Ditto of the auctioneers, duties on ſales, in 1785,	4529	1	3						
Ditto, in 1786,	3392	13	8						
Ditto, in 1787,	3130	17	4	11052	12	3			
Balance, carried to account of unappropriated revenues,				2378	5	7½			
							£ 21492	16	0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 9517	13	0			
Paid wages and mileage of members of aſſembly, per acts 27th December, 1781 and 17th September 1785, in 1786,	8198	7	0			
Ditto, in 1787,	3776	16	0			
				£ 21492	16	0

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Received for court fines and forfeitures, in 1785,	£ 482	9	2			
Ditto, in 1786,	389	19	1			
Ditto, in 1787,	607	10	10	£ 1479	19	1
Ditto for fees of the land-office, excluſive of their pay and that of the clerks, in 1785,	3535	4	4½			
Ditto, in 1786,	6745	1	1			
Ditto, in 1787,	3678	9	10	13958	15	3½
Ditto for tavern and marriage liceces, and ſecretary's fees, excluſive of ſecretary's ſalary, in 1785,	3874	10	0			
Ditto, in 1786,	4450	2	1			
Ditto, in 1787,	3360	16	6	11685	8	7
Ditto of balances, &c. due to the ſtate, in 1785,	1209	17	0			
Ditto, in 1786,	2340	18	9			
Ditto, in 1787,	2182	10	5	5733	6	2
				£ 32857	9	1½

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance of the militia payments, brought forward,	£ 384	14	2½			
Ditto of the recruiting balance, ditto,	56	9	3			
Ditto paid James Meaſe, Eſquire, ditto,	2912	2	8½			
Ditto pay and mileage of members of aſſembly, ditto,	2378	5	7½	£ 5731	11	9½
Paid on orders of council, their wages and mileage, per acts 27th December 1781 and 17th September 1785, in 1785,	4720	7	3			
Ditto, in 1786,	3259	6	10			
Ditto, in 1787.	3974	13	0	11954	7	1
Paid for principal and intereſt of Iſland money redeemed, per act March 25th 1780,				598	10	0
Paid on orders to the judges of the ſupreme court, for ſalary, per reſolution of aſſembly, March 24th 1784, and act March 25th 1785, to be paid out of the tavern and marriage licence revenue, in 1785,	2370	3	9			
Carried over,	£ 2370	3	9	£ 18284	8	10½

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

	£	s.	d.
Brought over, -	£ 32857	9	1½
Received of impoſt, commonly called protecting duties, in 1787,	17083	19	5
Balance of impoſt and taxes brought forward, -	26372	4	5½
Ditto of impoſt before November 1784, - -	9716	12	4½
Carried forward, -	£ 86030	5	4½

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought over, -	£ 2370	3	9	£ 18284	8	10½
Paid on orders to the judges of the ſupreme court, for ſalary, per reſolution of aſſembly, March 24th 1784, and act March 25th 1785, to be paid out of the tavern and marriage licence revenue, in 1786, - - -	2650	0	0			
Ditto, in 1787, - - -	2800	0	0			
				7820	3	9
Ditto on ditto, expences of the judges and officers of the ſaid court on the circuit, in counties where no courts are held, per act 20th May 1767, in 1785, - - -	158	10	7			
Ditto, in 1786, - - -	17	8	7			
Ditto, in 1787, - - -	205	16	2			
				381	15	4
Ditto on orders of aſſembly, expences of printing the laws, minutes, &c. wages of clerk, aſſiſtant-clerk, ſergeant at arms, door-keeper, for wood, ſtationary, and contingent charges of the houſe, in 1785, - -	2815	5	4			
Ditto, in 1786, - - -	2064	17	7			
Ditto, in 1787, - - -	2073	18	11			
				6954	1	10
Ditto on orders of council, pay and mileage of delegates of congreſs, per act December 27th 1781, and reſolutions of February 7th 1784 and 17th September 1785, in 1785, -	1421	0	0			
Ditto, in 1786, - - -	2774	12	0			
Ditto, in 1787, - - -	1659	19	0			
				5855	11	0
Ditto on orders of council, pay of ſundry members of the council of cenſors, and printing for them, per reſolutions of aſſembly, September 25th, and November 22d 1783, - -				218	8	6
Ditto, ditto, for repairs of the ſtate-houſe, per reſolutions September 22d 1784, and February 22d 1785, - -				1312	16	1
Ditto, ditto, for aſcertaining and marking the boundaries of the ſtate, per reſolution of aſſembly, Auguſt 28th 1783, in 1785, -	2464	16	4			
Ditto, in 1786, - -	2694	17	1½			
Carried forward, -	£ 9159	13	5½	£ 40827	5	4½

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 86030	5	4½
Carried over,	£ 86030	5	4½

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 5159	13	5½	£ 40827	5	4½
Paid on orders of council for aſcertaining and marking the boundaries of the ſtate, per reſolution of aſſembly, Auguſt 28th 1783, and act of March 31ſt 1785, in 1787,	2794	19	6			
				7954	12	11½
Ditto, ditto, judge of the admiralty, in addition, to his fees, per reſolution March 13th 1782, in 1785,	267	7	6			
Ditto, in 1786,	150	0	0			
Ditto, in 1787,	375	6	0			
				792	13	6
Ditto, ditto, Wyoming expences, for pay and rations of the militia, &c. per acts September 22d 1783, September 15th 1785, September 22d 1785, and 24th December 1785, and reſolutions of aſſembly of September 7th 1784, and April 8th 1785, in 1785,	1379	6	7			
Ditto, in 1786,	67	11	5			
Ditto, in 1787,	94	13	2			
				1541	11	2
Ditto, ditto, the late and preſent attorney-general's ſalary, per reſolutions of October 9th 1779, and February 28th 1780, and acts of December 27th 1781, and 17th September 1785, in 1785,	350	0	0			
Ditto, in 1786,	212	1	9			
Ditto, in 1787,	253	9	0			
				815	10	9
Ditto, ditto, penſioners, per act 22d September, in 1786 and 1787,				17366	0	5
Ditto, ditto, the comptroller-general's ſalary, per acts April 13th 1782, April 4th 1785, and reſolution September 1ſt 1783, in 1785,	800	0	0			
Ditto, in 1786,	800	0	0			
Ditto, in 1787,	600	0	0			
				2200	0	0
Ditto, ditto, rewards by proclamation of council, and per acts 8th September 1783, and 9th February 1784, paid in 1785,				1056	1	11
Ditto, ditto, for improvement of the ſtate-houſe lot, under the direction of Mr. Vaughan, per reſolution of aſſembly September 25th 1783, and act of aſſembly February 1735, in 1785,	695	0	0			
Carried over,	£ 695	0	0	£ 72553	16	1

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

	£	s.	d.
Brought over,	£ 86030	5	4½
Carried forward,	£ 86030	5	4½

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought over,	£ 695	0	0	£ 72553	16	1
Paid on orders of council, for improvement of the ſtate-houſe lot, under the direction of Mr. Vaughan, per reſolution of aſſembly Sept. 25th 1783, and act of aſſembly Feb. 1735, in 1786,	95	8	7½			
Ditto, in 1787,	153	2	6			
				943	11	1½
Ditto, ditto, Thomas Campbell, Eſquire, per reſolution of aſſembly, March 4th 1785,				110	0	0
Ditto, ditto, the grant to Thomas Paine, per act April 5th 1785,				500	0	0
Ditto, ditto, to Bowen and Beatty, agents of the Pennſylvania line, per reſolution April 6th 1785,				280	3	5
Ditto, ditto, to Hannah Nevill, per reſolution of Aſſembly April 8th 1785,				30	0	0
Ditto, ditto, to Henry Weaver, per ditto, December 5th 1785,				19	0	3
Ditto, ditto, reſiduary expences of the late purchaſes of land from the Indians, per reſolutions September 25th 1783, and 25th Auguſt 1784, in 1785,	1068	14	10			
Ditto, in 1786,	316	13	6			
				1385	8	4
Ditto, ditto, to the commiſſioners for viewing the road to Lebanon, and levelling the Tulpehocken creek, per reſolutions September 15th and 20th 1783,				95	1	1
Ditto, ditto, the annual penſion decreed by the ſupreme court, per act March 6th 1778, to Jane, the widow of John Roberts, attainted and executed for high-treaſon, in 1785,	75	0	0			
Ditto, in 1786,	75	0	0			
Ditto, in 1787,	75	0	0			
				225	0	0
Ditto, ditto, the commiſſioners for dividing the iſlands in the river Delaware, between this ſtate and New-Jerſey, according to agreement, and for aſcertaining the practicability of rendering the ſaid river navigable above Trenton falls, and ſurveying and drafting the ſame and its branches Lehi and Lachawanick, per act of 20th September 1783, and reſolutions of 26th September 1783, and 10th December 1784, in 1785,	125	8	1			
Carried forward,	£ 125	8	1	£ 76142	0	3½

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

Brought forward,	£ 86030 5 4½	Brought forward,	£ 125 8 1	£ 76142 0 3½
		Paid on orders of council, the commiſſioners for dividing the iſlands in the river Delaware, between this ſtate and New-Jerſey, according to agreement, and for aſcertaining the practicability of rendering the ſaid river navigable above Trenton falls, and ſurveying and drafting the ſame and its branches Lehi and Lachawanick, per act of 20th September 1783, and reſolutons of 26th September 1783, and December 10th 1784, in 1786,	171 7 2	
		Ditto, in 1787,	91 10 1	388 5 4
		Ditto, ditto, for recruiting colonel Harmer's regiment, per act September 6th 1785, in 1785,	194 4 0	
		Ditto, in 1786,	48 0 0	242 4 0
		Treaſurer's commiſſions, per ſundry acts, in 1785,	1135 13 8	
		Ditto, in 1786,	1166 16 9	
		Ditto, in 1787,	606 7 1	2908 17 6
		Paid by order of council, to the truſtees of Dickinſon college, per act April 7th 1786,		500 0 0
		Ditto, ditto, to Whitehead Humphreys, per act April 8th 1786,		300 0 0
		Ditto, ditto, the expences of ſupporting and removing ſundry natives of China, per reſolution of aſſembly, November 7th 1785, in 1786,	528 4 7½	
		Ditto, in 1787,	156 16 0	685 0 7½
		Ditto, ditto, to the American philoſophical ſociety, per reſolution of aſſembly February 16th 1783, to promote the knowledge of agriculture and commerce,		150 0 0
		Ditto, ditto, reſiduary expences of the trial of the cauſe of this ſtate with Connecticut, at the Trenton fœderal court, per reſolution November 6th 1782,		105 11 7
		Ditto, ditto, in part of £ 300, granted by act March 23d 1786, for laying out and opening a road from the Lehi Water-gap to Wyoming, in 1786,	50 0 0	
		Ditto, in 1787,	38 5 0	88 5 0
Carried over,	£ 86030 5 4½	Carried over,		£ 81510 4 4

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

	£	s.	d.
Brought over,	£ 86030	5	4½
Carried forward,	£ 86030	5	4½

	£	s.	d.
Brought over,	£ 81510	4	4
Paid by order of council, for laying out and opening a road from the mouth of Neſcopeck to Lehi, per act March 29th 1787,	150	0	0
Ditto, ditto, to Michael Moore, for laying out and opening a road from Hamburg, on Schuylkill, to the north line towards Sunbury, per act March 29th 1787,	200	0	0
Ditto, ditto, the commiſſioners for receiving and determining on Connecticut claims, in Luzerne county, per act March 28th 1787,	150	0	0
Ditto, ditto, the ſalary of Mr. Armſtrong, the late ſecretary of council, per act 17th September 1785,	232	14	4
Ditto, ditto, to ſundry expences of chiefs of the Wyandots, Choctaw, Chickeſaw and Cherokee nations of Indians, on their way to Congreſs, and returning, per order of council,	366	11	11
Paid on orders of council, per act April 13th 1782, ſundry balances of the five ranging companies for the frontier defence; fees to attornies in cauſes of the ſtate; the agent for exploring the donation land, per act March 24th 1785; ſundry balances of recruiting accounts of the ſtate navy, 1776 and 1777; clerk of the comptroller general, per act 4th April 1785; commiſſary of military ſtores; expences of erecting an arſenal for the ordinance and military ſtores; printing; door-keeper of council, per acts December 27th 1781, and September 17th 1785; firewood; ſtationary; winding up and keeping in repair the ſtate-houſe clock; poſtage of letters; expence of removing criminals when out of the county or bailiwick; maſter of the rolls for recording laws, per act Auguſt 22d 1752; ringing the bells of the city on public occaſions; a debt due to James Meaſe for money advanced in 1776 for coal; Fiſher and Roberts, for the uſe of their ſtore rented by the navy board 1777; banking and walling Mud-Iſland; Paul Baldy, Ezekiel Flemming and others attending at the bar of the aſſembly; William M'Culloch and Mary Crab, per reſolution of the houſe, for balance due them in 1776; William Govett, for ſervices as commiſſary to the militia, in 1781; doctor Ruſh, ſurgeon of the militia, in 1776; the honorable Henry Wynkoop, for ſervices attending as one of the judges of the high court of errors and appeals, per act 28th February 1780; repairing an iron cheſt; a balance due Adam Reigart for purchaſing horſes for the army, in 1778; Philip Bœhm for proviſions, in 1777; rewards by proclamation; pa-			
Carried forward,	£ 82609	10	7

Of Revenues not ſpecially appropriated, and Payments directed where no Funds were provided.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 86030	5	4½
Balance overpaid,	6680	14	2¼
	£ 92710	19	6¾

		£	s.	d.
Brought forward,				
		£ 82609	10	7

per and printing the new loan certificates, per act March 1ſt 1786; a balance due James Lang for caſh advanced, in 1778, for purchaſing cloathing, per act January 2d 1778, directed to be paid out of a debt due by Samuel Penroſe; a balance due to Doctor Fenton, for medicine for the militia, and to Blaithwaite Jones, for ſervices as engineer at Billings-Port; pay of the commiſſioners to the commercial convention, per reſolution of aſſembly; lottery wheels, and expences of patenting and regiſtering the donation lands; balances due agents of forfeited eſtates; citing perſons incloſing the public lots in Philadelphia; ſurveying part of the weſt branch of Suſquehanna, and running the line between the old and late Indian purchaſes, from the Allegany to ſaid weſt branch, per order of council; to reimburſe a Seneca Chief ſundries, of which he had been robbed by the whites; ſurveying the lands for Dickinſon college, per act April 7th 1786; Timothy Pickering, commiſſioner for holding elections in Luzerne, per act December 27th 1786; Indian preſents, per act of Council; powder for feu-de-joys; expences of apprehending John Franklin, charged with high-treaſon againſt the ſtate, and the reward of £ 300 for taking him——And ſundry other contingent expences, viz.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Paid in 1785,	£ 3749	8	5¼			
Ditto, in 1786,	1842	13	0			
Ditto, in 1787,	4509	7	6½			
				10101	8	11¾
				£ 92710	19	6¾

JOHN NICHOLSON.

Comptroller-General's Office,
March 24th, 1788.

The committee to whom was re-committed, *March* 27th, the report on the petition of *James Cunningham*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to* "*the act, entituled* " An Act for veſting the eſtates of the late proprietaries of " *Pennſylvania* in this commonwealth," and the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties*, and of the inhabitants of the *Dry Lands*, in the county of *Northampton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 4th, on the petition of *William Moore*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* againſt the conduct of *Thomas Dyer*, Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid county, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *March* 26th, on the petition of *Ebenezer Brady*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 18th, on the memorial of the Reverend *William Smith*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was referred, *March* 27th, the petition of divers printers in the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a copy of the petition of divers printers of the city of *Philadelphia*, together with a copy of this reſolution, be tranſmitted to the Delegates of this ſtate in Congreſs, and that they be inſtructed to make with all due diligence full enquiry into the truth of the facts therein contained, and that if the abuſes therein complained of ſhall on ſuch enquiry be found to exiſt, the ſaid delegates ſhall uſe their beſt endeavours in Congreſs to obtain redreſs of the ſame, in order that a knowledge of public events may have a free circulation throughout the United States of *America*.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw the following orders on the State Treaſurer.

In favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for *forty pounds*;

In favor of *Jacob Shallus*, for *forty pounds*; for their extra ſervices during the receſs of the Houſe.

In favor of *Joſeph Fry*, for *ſeven pounds ten ſhillings*;

In favor of *James Martin*, for *ſeven pounds ten ſhillings*; for their attendance during the receſs of the General Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report, that there is due to *Daniel Humphreys*, for ſix news-papers, entituled the *Pennſylvania Mercury*, for one year, due *December* 17th, 1787, *eight pounds eight ſhillings and nine-pence.*

To *Thomas Bradford*, for printing the laws, to this day, *one hundred and thirty pounds thirteen ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

To *Hall* and *Sellers*, a balance due to them for printing the minutes of the eleventh General Aſſembly, *ſeventy-nine pounds and ten-pence.*

To *Michael Billmeyer*, for printing the bills for conſideration, and the minutes, in the *German* language, to *February* 1788, *one hundred and ſix pounds four ſhillings.*

To *Thomas Lloyd*, for the debates of the General Aſſembly, ſix volumes, *five pounds.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Daniel Humphreys*, in full of his account, for *eight pounds eight ſhillings and nine-pence.*

In favor of *Thomas Bradford*, in full of his account, for *one hundred and thirty pounds thirteen ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

In favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, in full of their account, for *ſeventy-nine pounds and ten-pence.*

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, in full of his account, for *one hundred and ſix pounds four ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Lloyd*, in full of his account, for *five pounds.*

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate.*

An ACT *for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied.*

An ACT *to ſuſpend an act, entituled* "An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An ACT *to explain and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery."

An ACT *to lay a duty on foreign barley and malt imported into this ſtate.*

An ACT *for the relief of* James Parker, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *for veſting in* Thomas Gordon, *his heirs and aſſigns, certain eſtates forfeited to this commonwealth by virtue of his attainder of high treaſon.*

On motion,

Ordered, That 500 copies of the act, entituled "*An Additional Supplement* "*to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of* Pennſyl-"vania," and of the act, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, enti-*"*tuled* "An Act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery," be printed, and that the clerk be directed to tranſmit the ſame to the prothonotaries within the reſpective counties in this commonwealth.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws reported that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor of* Alexander M'Dowell.

II. *An* ACT *for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots of ground in the borough and county of* Lancaſter *in the Truſtees of* Franklin *college, for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution.*

III. *An* ACT *to incorporate the ſociety for propagating the goſpel among the heathen, formed by members of the Epiſcopal church of the United Brethren, or* Unitas Fratrum.

IV. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act to alter and "amend an act, entituled "*An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of "Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of Juſtices of the Peace "throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch elections, "and to authoriſe the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of* Philadelphia *to hold the "courts of record of the ſaid city, and to make further proviſion for the due "election and return of Juſtices of the Peace elect.*"

V. *An* ACT *to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian congregation of the* Big-Spring, *in* Newtown *townſhip, in* Cumberland *county.*

VI. *An* ACT *for erecting a certain diſtrict of country, in which the court-houſe in* Cheſter *county ſtands, into a county town.*

VII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act for raiſing, by "way of lottery, the ſum of Forty-two Thouſand Dollars, for improving the "public roads leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of "this ſtate, and towards the improving the navigation of the river *Schuyl-"kill.*"

VIII. *An* ACT *to enable the commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the towſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of the ſaid county.*

IX. *An* ACT *to incorporate and endow an academy or public ſchool in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks.

X. *An* ACT *to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof.*

XI. *An Additional* SUPPLEMENT *to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania.

XII. *An* ACT *for deſtroying the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entituled* "An Act for funding and re-"deeming the bills of credit of the United States of *America*, and for "providing means to bring the preſent war to an happy concluſion."

XIII. *An* ACT *to lay a duty on foreign barley and malt imported into this ſtate.*

XIV. *An* ACT *to exonerate* Joſeph Fry, *door-keeper of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly, from any charge for rent or other demands for or on account of his occupying part of the weſtern wing of the State-houſe, and conſuming the herbage of the State-houſe yard.*

XV. *An* ACT *for the purpoſe of granting the ſum of* one hundred pounds, *for the preſent relief of* James M'Manas.

XVI. *An* ACT *for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which* *were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers, for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied.*

XVII. *An* ACT *for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of* Northampton *and* Luzerne.

XVIII. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining " and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by " them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes there- " in mentioned."

XIX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act for regu- " lating the meaſurement of corn and ſalt imported into the port of *Phi-* " *ladelphia*."

XX. *An* ACT *to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate.*

XXI. *An* ACT *to explain and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for the " gradual abolition of ſlavery."

XXII. *An* ACT *for veſting in* Thomas Gordon, *his heirs and aſſigns, certain eſtates forfeited to this commonwealth by virtue of his attainder of high treaſon.*

XXIII. *An* ACT *for the relief of* James Parker, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia.

Which laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

The Houſe then adjourned until the firſt *Tueſday* in *September* next.

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

Philadelphia: PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS.

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MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD SESSION
OF THE TWELFTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday*, the Second Day of *September*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight.

Tueſday, *September* 2, 1788. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *September* 3, 1788. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 4, 1788. A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

A petition from *James Rumſey*, of *Berkley* county, in the ſtate of *Virginia*, was read; ſetting forth that he has been ſeveral years employed, with unremitted attention and at a great expence, in inventing and bringing to perfection ſundry machines and engines, namely, one for propelling boats on the water by the power of ſteam, which has been already accompliſhed in experiments on a boat of about ſix tons burthen; another machine, conſtructed on ſimilar principles, for raiſing water at a ſmall expence, to be applied to the working of mills of different kinds, as well as to various uſeful purpoſes in agriculture; a new invented boiler for generating ſteam; and alſo other machines, by means of which griſt and ſaw-mills may be ſo improved in their conſtruction, by a cheap and ſimple machine, as to require the application of much leſs water than is neceſſary in the common mode; and praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him, his executors, adminiſtrators and aſſigns, for a term of years, the excluſive right of conſtructing, navigating and employing, within this ſtate, the ſeveral boats, engines and machines, by him invented and improved.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from about 300 inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*A further Act for quieting the diſturbances at* "Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim-"ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne," as publiſhed for conſideration, may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Edward Stiles*, referring to his memorial preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, *December* 2d, 1785, and their proceedings thereon, was read, praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Rufus Lawrence* and *Noah Murray*, a committee of the proprietors of *Shawanee Flat*, in the townſhip of *Plymouth*, and county of *Luzerne*, was read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid flat being ſubject to inundations by the riſing of the river *Suſquehanna*, the proprietors thereof cannot maintain fences to ſeparate their reſpective lands, but have been obliged to occupy the ſame in one general field; that it having been neceſſary to make and ſupport one general fence around the whole thereof, the proprietors have been in the practice of appointing committees to ſuperintend the common intereſt of the proprietors, in keeping up the general fence and preventing treſpaſſes in the ſaid general field; that there being no law authoriſing the proprietors to uſe compulſory means with delinquents, who refuſe or neglect to make and repair their proportions of the general fence, or to proſecute for treſpaſſes committed on the ſaid flat, or to regulate the times when the ſaid flat ſhall be depaſtured, and when horſes, cattle, ſheep and ſwine ſhall be excluded, whereby the proprietors annually ſuſtain much loſs and damage; and praying an act may be paſſed, to remedy the aforeſaid inconveniencies.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Rector, Church-Wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St. *John*, at *York-town*, in the county of *York*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are conſiderably indebted to ſeveral perſons for erecting a ſchool-houſe, called the *York* academy, parſonage-houſe, and other improvements, and praying they may by law be enabled to mortgage the ſaid parſonage-houſe, and the two lots whereon the ſame is erected, in order to raiſe a ſum or ſums of money, not exceeding *five hundred pounds*, for the purpoſe of diſcharging the ſaid debts, and compleating the ſaid buildings.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *M'Calmont* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the* "*donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

On motion made by Mr. *Piper*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to alter and amend "an act, entituled "*An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated* "*lands within this ſtate*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Peters*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadel- "phia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſh- "ington *county from the payment of taxes*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 5, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A tranſcript of the taxes aſſeſſed on the inhabitants and taxable property within the county of *Fayette*, for the year 1788, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Eleazer Oſwald* was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its encloſures, as follows, *viz.*

Philadelphia, September 5, 1788.

S I R,

I TAKE the liberty to incloſe to you, as Speaker of the General Aſſembly of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, my addreſs and memorial, relative to the late unjuſtifiable meaſures which have been taken with me, by three of the Judges of the Supreme Court; and moſt earneſtly intreat that you will cauſe the ſame to be preſented to the Honorable Houſe: they contain a ſtatement of facts of public notoriety, and information of the moſt ſerious nature againſt the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, *William Auguſtus Atlee* and *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquires, Juſtices of the ſaid Supreme Court. The lawleſs treatment I have experienced at their hands, in their official capacity, calls aloud for legiſlative redreſs.

I am,
With every ſentiment of reſpect,
S I R,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
ELEAZER OSWALD.

The Hon. THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The Addreſs and Memorial of ELEAZER OSWALD, of the city of *Philadelphia*, Printer,

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT your memorialiſt, on the firſt day of July, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight, at the city of *Philadelphia*, and within the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, publiſhed an addreſs in his paper, ſigned "*Eleazer Oſwald*," a true copy whereof is hereunto annexed, and marked No. 1, relative to a writ iſſuing out of the Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania*, in caſe, againſt your memorialiſt, at the ſuit of one *Andrew Brown:* upon which proceſs, bail of *one thouſand pounds* was demanded for your memorialiſt's appearance upon the return day of the ſaid proceſs, to wit, the ſecond day of *July* laſt aforeſaid.

That upon a citation to ſhew cauſe of bail in the action aforeſaid, and a ſolemn hearing before Judge *Bryan*, "no cauſe of action being ſhewn," your memorialiſt was diſmiſſed without bail, as is ſet forth in Judge *Bryan*'s order hereunto annexed, and marked No. 2, certified by the Sheriff of the city and county of *Philadelphia*.

That in the cloſe of the ſeſſion of the ſaid Supreme Court, to wit, the 12th day of *July*, 1788, an application was made by *William Lewis*, Eſquire, to the Juſtices of the ſame Supreme Court, for a rule to ſhew cauſe, on *Monday* morning following, at nine o'clock, why an attachment ſhould not iſſue againſt your memorialiſt, for a contempt of court, in publiſhing the ſaid addreſs, marked No. 1. A true copy of the rule is alſo annexed, marked No. 3.

That your memorialiſt had no notice of this rule to ſhew cauſe, till late on *Saturday* evening, when he returned from the country, where he was engaged all *Saturday* afternoon.

In this ſituation your memorialiſt applied to *Jonathan Dickenſon Serjeant*, Eſquire, as counſel, who appeared with him in open court on *Monday* morning, conformably to the ſaid rule. Your memorialiſt then diſcovered, that the court, the preceding *Saturday*, had founded the ſaid rule to ſhew cauſe on certain affidavits, which were taken *ex parte*—totally in his abſence—without his having any ſort of opportunity to croſs-examine the deponents. In vain did his counſel pray a poſtponement of the argument of that queſtion, although ſufficient ſecurity was offered for your memorialiſt's appearance at the next court, eſpecially as his counſel was juſt retained on the occaſion. In vain was it pleaded that your memorialiſt was pinched in point of time, as *Sunday* intervened—when the Prothonotary's office was ſhut, and inacceſſible to buſineſs of any ſort. The court ordered on the argument immediately, and determined, without heſitation, that your memorialiſt had committed a contempt; and the only mode aſſigned for acquital was, for your memorialiſt to ſubmit to the court in this ſummary courſe of proceedings, and to purge himſelf of the ſuppoſed offence in anſwering interrogatories upon his own oath.

Your memorialiſt was, however, permitted to file recognizance, himſelf in *two hundred pounds*, and Mr. *Blair M'Clenachan*, of this city, in *two hundred pounds* more, for his appearance the next morning.

Your memorialiſt appeared accordingly, and was required to anſwer interrogatories, which he poſitively refuſed; and thereupon the court proceeded to paſs ſentence on him, to ſuffer one month's impriſonment, pay a fine of *ten pounds* to the commonwealth, and the coſts of proſecution, as by the ſentence of ſaid court, marked No. 4, will more fully appear.

That the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, Eſquire, *William Auguſtus Atlee*, Eſquire, *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquire, and *George Bryan*, Eſquire, were upon the bench when the aforeſaid ſentence was paſſed; but *George Bryan*, Eſquire, did not concur with the court, as he was abſent in the courſe of the argument the preceding day, when the ſaid *Thomas M'Kean*, *William Auguſtus Atlee* and *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquires, formed their determination on the ſubject.

That your memorialiſt was impriſoned, and ſuffered his impriſonment; and upon the thirteenth day of *Auguſt* laſt the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council remitted his fine, as appears by their order hereunto annexed, marked No. 5.

Finding his fine remitted, and that the coſts were diſcharged by a friend, your memorialiſt immediately demanded his liberty of the Gaoler: Being confined on the fifteenth of *July* for a month, and a month in law only conſiſting of twenty-eight days, his time of impriſonment expired the twelfth day of *Auguſt*. But Captain *Reynolds*, the Gaoler, declined granting the requeſt till he had conſulted the Chief Juſtice; after which he replied to your memorialiſt; that the Chief Juſtice forbid him to enlarge your memorialiſt till the fifteenth of *Auguſt*, as the record was wrong; and ſuch were the intentions and determination of the bench.—Shortly after the Chief Juſtice followed Captain *Reynolds* up to the gaol, and with his own hand delivered him a letter, of which the following is a true copy, and which is marked No. 6. in the appendage of teſtimony.

SIR,

WITH reſpect to the time of the impriſonment of Mr. *Oſwald*, it was intended to be for one kalendar month, that is, until the fifteenth of *Auguſt*, and ſo expreſſed when judgment was given; but as it is not ſo fully expreſſed in the entry on record, and the fine has been remitted by Council, I am of opinion you will be excuſable in diſcharging him immediately, and for my own part have no objection to it. *I am, SIR*,

Your obedient humble ſervant,
THOMAS M'KEAN.

Philadelphia, Auguſt 13th, 1788.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Eſquire, Sheriff, or the Keeper of the gaol of* Philadelphia *county*.

Although your memorialiſt doth not wiſh to excite any particular legiſlative attention in regard of the unwarrantable and arbitrary directions of the Chief Juſtice, to deprive him of his liberty a moment longer than the record ſpecified: Nor is he diſpoſed to diſcuſs the truth or falſity of the record itſelf in other reſpects—yet he humbly conceives it is unprecedented in modern law, and of very dangerous conſequence at all times in a free government, to allow a Judge to deviate from or impute errors in the records of a public officer, in whom the law places the moſt unlimited confidence, and to whoſe minutes the greateſt reſpect is due, inaſmuch as our liberties, properties, and our lives, depend on the ſuppoſed verity and ſtability of ſuch records.

Your memorialiſt aſpires to conſiderations of a higher nature, touching the meaſures which the Supreme Court adopted with him, in immuring him in priſon, without even the ſhadow of a trial, for an imaginary offence, not committed in view of the court, but at a diſtance,—before any proceſs was ever returned to the court by any known officer of the law—and when they were not in poſſeſſion of the cauſe—On this ſubject your memorialiſt ſolemnly appeals to your honorable body, who are the great conſtitutional judges of the grievances of the people, and have ample powers aſſigned to impeach every officer, and preſent him to the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council for trial and puniſhment.

In making this addreſs, your memorialiſt relies with the moſt pleaſing confidence upon your juſtice and candor.—Conſidering you as the chief guardians and ſupporters of our laws and privileges—and bound to proſecute and correct the miniſters of juſtice in every ſtation, who are found chargeable with maladminiſtration of the laws, and abuſing the powers delegated to them—your memorialiſt now applies to you as the national inqueſt of the commonwealth for redreſs; and calls upon you to declare, under the oaths you have taken, whether the Juſtices of the Supreme Court in the commitment of your memorialiſt (as above ſet forth in the ſtatement of facts) have not exerciſed extraordinary and illegal powers, ſubverſive of the conſtitution of the ſtate, and dangerous to the perſonal liberty and ſafety of every inhabitant of the country.

It is apprehended the freemen of *Pennſylvania* are governed by known laws, and not by the arbitrary will and determination of Judges, introducing ſummary, Star-Chamber proceedings, for no other purpoſe, apparently, than to demoliſh juries and blaſt our deareſt rights and privileges. Nor is there any pretenſion to a power of interpreting and expounding the law, that can juſtify or exempt Judges when they preſume to violate and trample upon it: For the judicial power, it has been well obeſerved,* " is founded on law, and " Judges have no power to derogate therefrom, nor to do wrong." Few men at firſt diſcover the danger of even trivial changes in fundamentals; and thoſe who are bent upon effecting them uſually act with ſo much artfulneſs, that they frequently execute the moſt execrable plans under fair and ſpecious pretences. Every attempt, therefore, of changing the law and uſage of the country, every deſign to deviate from and break our conſtitution, ought moſt carefully to be obſerved and timely checked and oppoſed. Nor is it only the intereſt of the people that ſuch fundamentals ſhould be duly guarded, for whoſe benefit and happineſs alone they were at firſt ſo carefully laid, but of the commonwealth and its rulers alſo, for whoſe ſake thoſe pretend to act, who would willingly ſacrifice every veſtige of freedom at the polluted ſhrine of deſpotiſm!

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* *See Lord* Somers's *Eſſay, page* 69.

The legiſlative, executive and judicial officers of this commonwealth are under the religious ties of a ſolemn oath to maintain our conſtitution, and to do nothing directly or indirectly prejudicial or injurious * thereto.—The Judges of *England* are alſo under ſimilar obligations not to ſwerve from the laws of that country. And it is not to be forgotten, that in the early periods of the *Engliſh* hiſtory puniſhments have run high and been very ſevere againſt ſuch Judges as ſuffered the courſe of juſtice to be perverted, or the rights and liberties of the people to be invaded. Lord *Somers*, in his celebrated eſſay juſt alluded to (page 69, 24) tells us, "the Judges in ſuch caſes forfeited "their bodies, lands and goods, as in caſes of treaſon." Judge *Thorpe*, therefore, in *Edward* the Third's time, was hanged: In *Richard* the Second's time, eleven of the Judges were condemned to death; and although two were executed, all the others were for ever baniſhed, as unworthy to enjoy the benefit of that law which they had ſo perfidiouſly and baſely betrayed, and as examples to future Judges, and for ever to make their ears to tingle. "So "(continues this judicious writer) it belongeth to our Parliament, as being "one of the great ends as well as reaſons for which they ought to be fre- "quently called and aſſembled, to enquire into and puniſh the crimes and "oppreſſions of Judges and executive officers, as the great inqueſt of the "kingdom—And the neglect of this, in not making ſo frequent and ſignal "examples of parliamentary juſtice among the miniſterial diſpenſers of our "laws, as our anceſtors uſed to do, hath been the encouragement and cauſe "of ſo many uſurpations and invaſions of the laws, immunities, rights and "privileges of the nation."

By our conſtitution, every perſon has a right to the freedom of ſpeech, and of writing and publiſhing his ſentiments; and the freedom of the preſs is expreſly ſecured to every man. Your memorialiſt, therefore, held himſelf juſtifiable in publiſhing the addreſs alluded to, which ſpeaks for itſelf—and, your memorialiſt humbly conceives, conveys no manner of contempt to the court, not only as the court could not be legally poſſeſſed of the cauſe till the return day of the writ, but becauſe the publication did not touch on the merits of the cauſe commenced in court, nor obſtruct the courſe of the court in any reſpect in accepting the Sheriff's return, or in taking your memorialiſt's appearance, or proceeding in the uſual way; nor had the ſaid publication any improper tendency to influence a jury, as the cauſe could not be tried the firſt term to which it was returnable. The conſtituent, deſcriptive properties of a contempt do not, as your memorialiſt is well informed, by any means, form the features of the aforeſaid addreſs.

It is laid down in an Eſſay † upon Warrants, *&c.* in high eſtimation, ſuppoſed to be written by Lord *Camden*, "Libels, or defamatory expreſſions out "of court upon what hath paſſed in court, are no let or hindrance to the pro- "ceſs of the court, or to national juſtice; they do not break a ſpring, clog the "wheels, or ſtop the vibrations of the juridical machine; and therefore do "not neceſſarily require inſtantaneous remedy. Nothing but abſolute neceſ- "ſity can warrant commitment before trial by a jury, the right of every man "by *magna charta*. Actual breach of the peace, and actual contempt of law

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* *See Conſtitution, ſect.* 43.

† *Page* 192.

" proceedings, vindicate upon that principle ſuch reſtraint. No other of-
" fences do, and leaſt of all thoſe committed by writers."

But if your memorialiſt had committed a contempt, by conſtruction of the Judges, it is no more than a criminal offence in the eye of the law, for which he hath a right to a trial by a jury of his country expreſly by our conſtitution, and is not under the power of attachment to be at the mercy and wild diſcretion of the court, ſubject to pain of perpetual impriſonment, to anſwer upon oath to interrogatories tending to make him accuſe himſelf. " That in all proſecutions for criminal offences, a man hath a right to " be heard by himſelf and his counſel, to demand the cauſe and nature " of his accuſation, to be confronted with the witneſſes, to call for evi- " dence in his favor, and a ſpeedy public trial, by an impartial jury of " the country, without the unanimous conſent of which jury he cannot " be found guilty: nor can he be compelled to give evidence againſt him- " ſelf: nor can any man be juſtly deprived of his liberty, except by the " laws of the land, or the judgment of his peers." Ninth ſection Bill of Rights.

That ſuch interrogatories have an unqueſtionable view to criminate a freeman is very evident; for, unleſs the anſwering them one way would convict him, the anſwering them the other way could not clear him: the affirmation muſt do one in the ſame proportion that the negative does the other. Thus out of the mouth of every culprit ariſes proof for his own condemnation, which is contrary to the fundamentals of law and natural juſtice, which protect every man from impeaching himſelf. Indeed this mode of proſecution originated from the odious Star-Chamber of old, which was aboliſhed for its oppreſſive practices, and ſeems a perfect alien to the genius of our own conſtitution, which is our greateſt bulwark and ſafeguard.

But this is not the place for argument or diſcuſſion, or your memorialiſt would proceed to make ſome comments on the caſe of *Bingley*, whom the court of *England* deprived of his liberty for a ſuppoſed conſtructive contempt, without allowing him a trial by jury, for refuſing to anſwer interrogatories. It is not the buſineſs of your memorialiſt to ſtep into the field of inveſtigation—This is reſerved for his ſuperiors in wiſdom and repreſentation; to whom he now cheerfully reſigns the conſideration of his grievances, which involves us in a circle of important conſequences, of which every ſucceſſive one ſeems to be the greateſt. Upon the event of your legiſlative deliberations it may depend—Whether the conſtitution of this ſtate doth not ſecure the citizens in the poſſeſſion of perſonal liberty, and not ſubject them for conſtructive offences to be attached at the will and pleaſure of a court; nor compel them to accuſe themſelves, under interrogatories, without the intervention of witneſſes and a jury. It will now, it is to be hoped, be decided—Whether the Judges did not infringe the conſtitution in direct terms, in the ſentence paſſed upon your memorialiſt; and whether, of courſe, they have made themſelves proper objects of impeachment; ſo that the judgment impoſed upon your memorialiſt may be reverſed for its injuſtice and illegality, and be for ever expunged and diſregarded as a precedent in *Pennſylvania*.

ELEAZER OSWALD.

Philadelphia, September 4, 1788.

APPENDAGE OF TESTIMONY.

NUMBER I.

To the PUBLIC.

WHEN violent attacks are made upon a perſon under pretext of private juſtice, and legal ſteps are taken on the occaſion, not perhaps to redreſs the ſuppoſed injury, but to feed and gratify partiſaning and temporiſing reſentments, it is not unwarantable in ſuch perſon to repreſent the real ſtatement of his caſe, and appeal to the world for their ſentiments and countenance. The diſintereſted and impartial part of mankind are concerned in theſe addreſſes and appeals; and it is hoped that they will always pay a becoming attention to the relations of truth and inſulted innocence. Indeed, while we are at liberty thus to lay before the public our own particular grievances, (and this liberty I truſt, at leaſt while I live, will never be denied a citizen of *Pennſylvania)* there is no fear but judicious, intelligent and diſpaſſionate characters will readily diſtinguiſh for themſelves, and ſeparate thoſe meaſures which are ſuggeſted by party, or the patrons and tools of party, from meaſures merely private and perſonal in themſelves, and which are commenced by one individual againſt another for the pure purpoſes of undiſſembled juſtice.

Upon theſe conſiderations, principally, I am now emboldened to treſpaſs on the public patience, and muſt ſolicit the indulgence of my friends and cuſtomers, while I preſent to their notice an account of the ſteps lately exerciſed with me; from which it will appear that my ſituation as a printer, and the rights of the preſs and of freemen, are fundamentally ſtruck at; and an earneſt endeavour is on the carpet to involve me in difficulties, to pleaſe the malicious diſpoſitions of old and permanent enemies.

On *Thurſday* evening laſt, the Sheriff's Bailiff waited on me with a *Capias* in caſe, at the ſuit of *Andrew Brown,* conductor of a young ladies academy in *Third-ſtreet,* upon which *one thouſand pounds* bail was demanded for my appearance at the next Supreme Court the ſecond day of *July.* This action, it is aſſerted, is brought to try "the truth or falſity" of certain charges contained in publications in my paper, which Mr. *Brown* has applied to himſelf, and is pleaſed to deem libellous and defamatory.

It is very true, that in the diſcuſſion of the momentous queſtion relative to the adoption of the Fœderal Government, many pieces have appeared in all the papers on the continent, and in the courſe of theſe publications ſome of the pieces, as is uſual in political ſquabbles, and in times of high political ferment, have not been altogether purged from a proportion of invective and abuſe. Mr. *Brown* having made himſelf conſpicuous in thoſe ſquabbles, naturally provoked the indignation of ſome writers in my paper. He could not preſerve his temper and moderation in the conflict, and deſirous of avenging himſelf of me, as the printer, he applies to Mr. *Lewis,* laſt *April,* to ſue me, unleſs I would conſent to ſurrender the authors of the pieces of which he complained. Mr. *Brown* then managed a paper himſelf, and a fœderal paper too—pretty demand! from one printer upon another, diſhonor himſelf and betray the ſecrets of the preſs.

I beg

I beg leave to lay before you Mr. *Lewis*'s letter to me——

21ſt *April*, 1788.

SIR,

Mr. *BROWN* wiſhes that the public ſhould be aſcertained of the truth or falſity of the ſeveral charges which have appeared againſt him in your paper, and knowing of no mode by which this can take place in ſo ſatisfactory a manner as by a trial at law, between him and the author or printer, he has applied to me to bring an action for this purpoſe——I give you this information, in order that you may, if you think proper, give up the author or authors of the ſaid charges, or of any of them—If this is not done, it muſt be determined in a legal manner, whether there is, or is not, any difference between the liberty and licentiouſneſs of the preſs.

I am, SIR,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
W. LEWIS.

Mr. Oswald.

On the receipt of this letter, I requeſted my friend Colonel *Proctor* to wait on Mr. *Lewis*, with the following anſwer:

Wedneſday Morning, 23d *April*, 1788.

SIR,

I DID not receive your note of the 21ſt till laſt evening, reſpecting Mr. *Brown*'s application to you—But before I can decidedly give you an anſwer, I could wiſh the ſeveral charges to which you allude ſhould be particulariſed to me. I ſhall then have no objection to comply with your expectations in ſuch mode as ſhall be deemed moſt adviſeable.

I am, SIR,
Your humble ſervant,
E. OSWALD.

Mr. Lewis.

My wiſhes were granted by Mr. *Lewis*.

April 24th, 1788.

SIR,

THE publications alluded to in my letter of the 21ſt inſtant are contained in your paper of the 27th of *December*, 1786, under the ſignature of "*Fact or Blunt*"—In that of the 26th of *January* laſt, under the ſignature of "*Peep*"—In that of the 31ſt of *January* laſt, under the ſignature of "*A foe to ſcribbling dunces and pſeudo patriots*"—In that of the 14th of *March* laſt, under the ſignature of "*No Tiffany*," together with the note next following the laſt mentioned publication—and in that of the 22d of *March* laſt, under the ſignature of "*Obadiah Forceps*."

I am, SIR,
Your humble ſervant,
Wm. LEWIS.

Col. Oswald.

I then made this concluſive reply.

Saturday, April 26, 1788.

S I R,

I HAVE reviewed the publications mentioned in your letter to me of the 24th inſtant, and I do not think myſelf bound to ſatisfy your wiſhes in reſigning up the names of the author or authors of thoſe pieces—as a printer I have a better regard for the freedom of the preſs: however, I have no objection to publiſh in my paper whatever Mr. *Brown* may offer in his own acquital; and I dare to ſay "the truth or falſity of the ſeveral charges," which he has taken to himſelf in this line, can be diſcuſſed with more propriety than in a legal procedure—But you, Sir, are now at liberty to adviſe him, and take ſuch meaſures as you pleaſe.

I am, S I R,

Your humble ſervant,

E. OSWALD.

Mr. LEWIS.

Mr. *Lewis* afterwards addreſſes Colonel *Procter* with his determination.

May 1ſt, 1788.

DEAR SIR,

I THINK I gave you reaſon to expect that I would inform you of Mr. *Brown*'s determination with reſpect to Colonel *Oſwald* before any other ſteps ſhould be taken, and I now inform you that his determination is to commence an action without loſs of time.

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

WM. LEWIS.

Colonel PROCTER.

But until the news had arrived laſt *Thurſday* that the ninth ſtate had acceded to the new fœderal government, I was not called upon; and Mr. *Page* in the afternoon of that day viſited me in due form of law with a writ. Had Mr. *Brown* purſued me in this line, "without loſs of time," agreeably to his Lawyer's letter, I ſhould not have ſuppoſed it extraordinary—But to arreſt me the moment the fœderal intelligence came to hand, indicated that the commencement of this ſuit was not ſo much the child of his own fancy, as it has been probably dictated to and urged on him by others, whoſe ſentiments upon the new conſtitution have not in every reſpect coincided with mine. In fact, it was my idea, in the firſt progreſs of the buſineſs, that Mr. *Brown* was merely the hand-maid of ſome of my enemies among the fœderaliſts; and in this claſs I muſt rank his great patron, Doctor *Ruſh* (whoſe brother is a Judge of the Supreme Court.) I think Mr. *Brown*'s conduct has ſince confirmed the idea beyond a doubt.

Enemies I have had in the legal profeſſion, and it may perhaps add to the hopes of malignity, that this action is inſtituted in the Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania*. However, if former prejudices ſhould be found to operate againſt me on the bench, it is with a jury of my country, properly elected and impannelled, a jury of freemen and independent citizens, I muſt reſt the ſuit. I have eſcaped the jaws of perſecution through this channel on certain memorable occaſions, and I hope I ſhall never be a ſufferer, let the blaſt of faction blow with all its furies!

Whatever riveted prejudice and ill-nature have alledged reſpecting my ſentiments in fœderal topics, I totally diſregard. Conſcious of my uprightneſs and impartiality as a printer, I feel contented in my mind. Living likewiſe under a free and happy government, and entitled to the full privileges of every other citizen, I have an equal, nay, an indubitable right to think and ſpeak, and write, if I chuſe, on public occurrences. Nor does any thing affect me more deeply, than that I fear the liberty of the preſs is invaded and endangered in conſequence of the ſuit which is inſtituted againſt me.

Was every printer to be brought before the higheſt court of original juriſdiction in the commonwealth, and under bail of *one thouſand pounds*—for pieces which he printed on public affairs, what man would write for the preſs, or what citizen would venture to tell and warn his fellow-citizens of any approaching danger to their rights and liberties, when he reduces the printer to this predicament, either to ſuffer himſelf, or diſcloſe the author? Beſides, upon the ground that I am held reſponſible for being the printer, every perſon in the buſineſs I follow, here and in other places, is equally accountable for libelling.—Where would theſe actions terminate?

The doctrine of libels being a doctrine incompatible with law and liberty, and at once deſtructive of the privileges of a free country in the communication of our thoughts, has not hitherto gained any footing in *Pennſylvania*: and the vile meaſures formerly taken to lay me by the heels on this ſubject only brought down obloquy upon the conductors themſelves. I may well ſuppoſe the ſame love of liberty yet pervades my fellow-citizens, and that they will not allow the freedom of the preſs to be violated upon any refined pretence, which oppreſſive ingenuity or courtly ſtudy can invent.

Viewing the proſecution commenced againſt me with theſe ſentiments, I ſhall cheerfully reſign its fate to the regular courſe of juſtice. Upon trial of the cauſe, the public will decide for themſelves, whether Mr. *Brown*'s motives have been laudable and dignified; whether his conduct in declining an acquital of his character in the paper and ſuing me in the manner he did, was decent and conſiſtent; and in a word, whether he is not actuated by ſome of my inverate foes and opponents to lend his name in their ſervice, for the purpoſe of harraſſing and injuring me.

ELEAZER OSWALD.

NUMBER II.

30*th June*, 1788.

Andrew Brown *v.* *Eleazer Oſwald.*	Caſe for libel in Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania* on ſummons to ſhew cauſe of bail, required of the defendant in *one thouſand pounds*. Plaintiff ſhews no cauſe—defendant is therefore diſcharged, and plaintiff appeals to the court, and immediately gives notice to the defendant.

GEORGE BRYAN.

The above is a true copy from the original.
JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Sheriff.*

NUMBER III.

Reſpublica v. *Eleazer Oſwald.* } In the Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania.*

At a Supreme Court held at *Philadelphia*, for the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, the 12th day of *July*, *Anno Domini* 1788, Mr. *Lewis* produced an affidavit of *Andrew Brown*, plaintiff in a certain cauſe depending in this court, wherein the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* is defendant, ſtating divers papers and facts, which papers were produced and read, and thereupon, and upon *James Martin* and *Thomas Proctor*, Eſquire, being ſworn and examined, he moves that a rule be granted that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* ſhew cauſe why an attachment ſhould not iſſue againſt him for a contempt of this court, as ſtated in the ſaid affidavit.

Thereupon rule to ſhew cauſe on *Monday*, the 14th day of *July* inſtant, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

From the Records,

EDW. BURD, *Prot. Sup. Ct.*

The above is a true copy from the original by
JOSEPH KIMBLE, *Aſſiſt. Shff.*

NUMBER IV.

Reſpublica v. *Eleazer Oſwald.* } In the Supreme Court of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.*

Twelfth *July*, 1788, Mr. *Lewis* produced to the court an affidavit of *Andrew Brown*, plaintiff in a certain cauſe depending in this court, wherein the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* is defendant, ſtating divers papers and facts, which papers were produced and read, and thereupon, and upon *James Martin* and *Thomas Proctor*, Eſquire, being ſworn and examined, he moves that a rule be granted that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* ſhew cauſe why an attachment ſhould not iſſue againſt him for a contempt of this court, as ſtated in the ſaid affidavit; whereupon rule that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* ſhew cauſe on *Monday*, the 14th day of *July* inſtant, accordingly.

Fourteenth day of *July*, 1788, *Eleazer Oſwald* appeared in open court, agreeably to the rule of the 12th day of *July* inſtant, and thereupon the ſaid affidavit and papers were read to him, among which was a piece under the ſignature of *Eleazer Oſwald*, contained in a public news-paper of the firſt day of *July* inſtant, ſtiled the *Independent Gazetteer*, or the *Chronicle* of *Freedom*, volume 7th, No. 796; the publication whereof, from the printing-office of the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald*, was proved to the court on the oath of *James Martin*; whereupon the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* was demanded by the court, whether he would anſwer gratis interrogatories, to be exhibited to him, to exculpate himſelf from the contempt charged againſt him as aforeſaid, and proved upon him by the ſaid affidavits and papers; who thereupon by his counſel, Mr. *Sergeant*, prayed that he might have time to conſider of his anſwer thereto till to-morrow, and that he might give bail for that purpoſe, which prayer was accordingly granted him.

And

And it is ordered, That the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* enter into a recognizance, himſelf in *two hundred pounds*, and one good ſurety in *two hundred pounds*, or two good ſureties in *one hundred pounds* each, that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* perſonally be and appear at a Supreme Court to be held at *Philadelphia*, for the ſaid ſtate, to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to anſwer in the premiſes, and not depart, *&c.*

ELEAZER OSWALD tent in £ 200.
BLAIR M'CLENACHAN tent in £ 200.

On condition that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* perſonally be and appear at a Supreme Court, to be held at *Philadelphia*, to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to anſwer, *&c.* and not to depart, *&c.*

Ten o'clock, A. M. 15th *July*, 1788, perſonally appeared *Eleazer Oſwald* in open court, and thereupon the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* was demanded, whether he would voluntarily anſwer to interrogatories, to be exhibited to him, to exculpate himſelf from the charge of a contempt, proved againſt him as aforeſaid, or enter into a recognizance for that purpoſe, who refuſed the ſame, declaring that he would not anſwer interrogatories: whereupon it is conſidered by the court here, that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald*, for the contempt aforeſaid, be committed to the common gaol of *Philadelphia* county for the ſpace of one month, pay a fine of *ten pounds* to the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, diſcharge the coſts of proſecution, and in the mean time remain in the Sheriff's cuſtody.

From the Records, p.
GEO. DAVIS, *for*
EDW. BURD, *Prot. Sup. Ct. Penn.*

NUMBER V.

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, Auguſt* 13, 1788.

On motion,

Ordered, That the fine of *ten pounds*, which was adjudged by the laſt Supreme Court to be paid to the uſe of the commonwealth by Colonel *Eleazer Oſwald*, be remitted.

Extract from the Minutes,
JAMES TRIMBLE, *for*
CHARLES BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Eſq; Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia.*

NUMBER VI.

SIR,

With reſpect to the time of the impriſonment of Mr. *Oſwald*, it was intended to be for one kalendar month, that is, until the fifteenth of *Auguſt*, and ſo expreſſed when judgment was given; but as it is not ſo fully expreſſed in the entry on record, and the fine has been remitted by Council, I am of opinion you will be excuſable in diſcharging him immediately, and for my own part have no objection to it.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient humble ſervant,

THOMAS M'KEAN.

Philadelphia, Auguſt 13th, 1788.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Eſquire, Sheriff, or the Keeper of the Gaol of* Philadelphia *county.*

The above is a true Copy,

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, Sheriff.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Benjamin Moore*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Frances Budden*, widow and relict of *James Budden*, late of the city of *Philadelphia*, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband died poſſeſſed of divers real eſtates within the ſaid city, and indebted to ſeveral perſons to a conſiderable amount; that the perſonal eſtate of the deceaſed being inſufficient to diſcharge the ſaid debts, ſhe applied to the Juſtices of the Orphans Court for ſaid city, *&c.* for an order to diſpoſe of the ſaid real eſtate, for the payment of the aforeſaid debts, and providing for the ſupport of herſelf and children; that the ſaid court conceived themſelves not authoriſed by the laws for the better ſettlement of inteſtate's eſtates to grant the order aforeſaid; therefore praying this Houſe to paſs a law, authoriſing her to diſpoſe of the ſaid real eſtate, for the purpoſes aforeſaid; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Agnes Downey* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband, Captain *John Downey*, was killed by the *Britiſh* in the year 1778, and ſtating the diſtreſſed ſituation of herſelf and helpleſs family; and praying this Houſe to grant her relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 92 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, reſiding within the fourth election diſtrict of the ſaid county, was read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid diſtrict, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the Pilots plying in the bay and river *Delaware* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill publiſhed for conſideration, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and praying they may be heard by their counſel, either at the bar of this Houſe, or before a committee thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That this Houſe will on *Thurſday* next reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, to hear counſel on the ſubject of the ſaid memorial.

The petition of *Rufus Lawrence* and *Noah Murray,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kremer,* Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday to inform Council, that the Houſe being met are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council were preparing buſineſs, which they expected to lay before the Houſe to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 6, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* President *and the* Supreme Executive Council *to the* General Assembly.

GENTLEMEN,

THE daring inſult offered to the laws of the ſtate, during the receſs of your Honorable Houſe, by the inſurgents of *Wyoming,* in carrying off the perſon of *Timothy Pickering,* Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county, called for the immediate interpoſition of government, more eſpecially as there was no knowing to what further lengths their outrages might be carried, unleſs ſpeedily checked.—For this purpoſe we iſſued proclamations, offering rewards for apprehending thoſe offenders, whoſe names were known, and made application to the governments of *New-Jerſey* and *New-York* to co-operate in our meaſures, and received the moſt friendly aſſurances of their ſupport. We alſo obtained permiſſion from the Honorable Congreſs, that the troops of the Union, then on their march to the weſtward, ſhould proceed (if found neceſſary) to *Wyoming.* Theſe active meaſures, ſupported by the friends of government within the county, have been attended with ſucceſs: Col. *Pickering* was releaſed, a number of the rioters have been taken into cuſtody, and apparent peace reſtored to the county. Sundry papers relating to the above tranſactions are encloſed in No. 1.

In order to carry into effect your reſolution of the 27th day of *March* laſt, reſpecting the ſeventeen enumerated townſhips, we appointed Colonel *Stephen Balliot* and Major *William Armſtrong* commiſſioners, to aſcertain the quantity and quality of the particular tracts of land contained in the ſaid townſhips. To their report, marked No. 2, we beg leave to refer you.

In compliance with your reſolution of the 29th day of *February* laſt, we have negociated, by means of our Delegates in Congreſs, with the United States, for the tract of country, which, on actual ſurvey, may appear to be their property on *Lake Erie,* adjoining the northern boundary of this ſtate. The report, with the documents on which the ſame is founded, are contained in the bundle No. 3.

The lowering the terms of lands in the new purchaſe, and freeing the ſurplus of the donation lands from the appropriations by which they are bound, are matters in our opinion worthy the attention of the Houſe; by theſe means not only an old fund would be rendered productive, but a new one will be opened.

Impoſitions are practiſed by perſons ſelling adulterated plate. An office erected for the purpoſe of aſſaying and ſtamping all plate offered for ſale would tend to prevent fraud, and give ſecurity to the purchaſer of that article.

The diſabled penſioners have lately been paid out of the unappropriated funds of the ſtate. It appears that theſe funds are inſufficient to diſcharge the demands made on them, and if the penſions are continued to be paid, ſome other proviſion is neceſſary.

The magazine for ſtoring of gun-powder in this city is not only improperly ſituated, with reſpect to the town, but too ſmall to contain the quantities now imported and manufactured in the neighbourhood. We therefore think a reviſal and alteration of the law paſſed the 28th day of *March*, 1787, reſpecting gun-powder, is now highly neceſſary.

The depreciation of our paper money calls for the attention of the legiſlature. We wiſh for a conference with a committee of your Honorable Houſe on this important ſubject.

We have called upon the reſpective county lieutenants for returns of perſons ſubject to the performance of militia duties, and of thoſe who have actually attended on muſter-days, agreeably to your reſolution of the 29th day of *March* laſt; theſe returns ſhall be laid before the General Aſſembly as ſoon as they come to hand.

We alſo herewith communicate a reſolution of Congreſs, dated *July* 11th, 1788, reſpecting penſioners—An extract of a letter from General *Harmer*, dated *June* 30th, 1788—Copies of the ratification of the fœderal conſtitution by the ſtates of *Virginia*, *South-Carolina* and *New-York*, with the amendments propoſed by *Virginia* and *New-York*—Alſo a letter from the Preſident of the Convention of *North-Carolina*, incloſing the proceedings of the ſaid Convention—A letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, dated at *Paris*, *May* 4th, 1788, incloſing the opinion of the Academy of Sciences at *Paris*, on the principles and conſtruction of the model for a bridge over the *Schuylkill*—A letter from General *St. Clair* of *July* 24th, and a reſolution of Congreſs of *Auguſt* 12th, 1788, relative to the holding in readineſs the militia on the frontiers, to act in conjunction with the fœderal troops in defending the weſtern country againſt *Indian* hoſtilities—Two letters from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, Secretary of Congreſs, dated the 20th and 25th days of *Auguſt*, 1788, the one incloſing a copy of the journal of Congreſs, from the commencement of the fœderal year to the 20th of *Auguſt*, 1788, and the other incloſing a requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the year 1788; and a memorial from Captain *John Armſtrong*.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, September 6th, 1788.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of *James Rumſey*, read *September* 4th inſtant, and praying no act may be paſſed diveſting him of the excluſive right of conſtructing, making and vending ſteam-boats within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Henry Voight*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth that he hath invented and conſtructed a pipe boiler for generating of ſteam, and praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him, his heirs and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and vending the ſame within this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the religious ſociety of *German* Roman Catholics of the church called the *Holy Trinity*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, September 8, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating divers inconveniencies they labour under by the licentious conduct of perſons uſing fire-arms within their incloſures, or in the public high-way within the vicinity of the ſaid city, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the freemen of the third election diſtrict in the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Andrew Bilmeyer*, in the townſhip of *Buffaloe.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Penns* and *Beaver*, in the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying the ſaid townſhips may be erected into a diſtrict, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Franklin*, late of the county of *Luzerne*, and now confined on a charge of treaſon in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be liberated on bail, or otherwiſe, as to the Houſe may ſeem expedient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *James Rumſey*, read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petitions of *John Fitch* and *Henry Voight*, read *September* 6th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 6th, to arrange and report on the meſſage from Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Irwine*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage and papers relative to the purchaſe of lands on *Lake Erie*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Maclay*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage which relates to reducing the price of the public lands, and freeing the ſurplus of the donation lands from its appropriation.

Ordered, That Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to an aſſay of plate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage and papers reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*.

Ordered, That ſuch part of the meſſage as relates to penſions, and the act of Congreſs of the 11th *June* laſt, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the gun-powder magazine.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the ſubject of the paper currency, and report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Findley*, be a committee on the letters from General *St. Clair* and Colonel *Harmer*, and the act of Congreſs reſpecting the weſtern country, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That the requiſitions of Congreſs for the year 1788 be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of Captain *John Armſtrong* be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from the Secretary of Congreſs of the 20th *Auguſt*, with the journals of Congreſs, and the letter from Mr. *Paine*, lie on the table.

Ordered, That the ſeveral letters from *South-Carolina*, *Virginia*, *New-York* and *North-Carolina*, be entered on the minutes of this Houſe, as follows, *viz.*

(CIRCULAR.)

Charleſton, 24th May, 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of informing your Excellency, that the Convention of the people of *South-Carolina* this day ratified the Conſtitution propoſed for the Government of the United States, by the Fœderal Convention.

With due conſideration and reſpect, I remain,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

THOMAS PINCKNEY.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of Pennſylvania.

Ayes 149—Nays 73.

Virginia, June 28th, 1788.

S I R,

BY direction of a Convention of this ſtate, I have the honor of tranſmitting to your Excellency copies of their ratification of the Conſtitution propoſed for the Government of the United States, and of amendments which they wiſh to take place therein.

With ſentiments of great reſpect,
I am, S I R,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervant,
EDMD. PENDLETON, *Preſident.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of Pennſylvania.

In CONVENTION, *at Poughkeepſie, State of New-York, July 26th,* 1788.

(CIRCULAR.)

S I R,

WE, the members of the Convention of this ſtate, have deliberately and maturely conſidered the Conſtitution propoſed for the United States. Several articles in it appear ſo exceptionable to a majority of us, that nothing but the fulleſt confidence of obtaining a reviſion of them by a General Convention, and an invincible reluctance to ſeparating from our ſiſter ſtates, could have prevailed upon a ſufficient number to ratify it, without ſtipulating for previous amendments. We all unite in opinion, that ſuch a reviſion will be neceſſary to recommend it to the approbation and ſupport of a numerous body of our conſtituents. We obſerve that amendments have been propoſed and are anxiouſly deſired by ſeveral of the ſtates, as well as by this; and we think it of great importance that effectual meaſures be immediately taken for calling a Convention, to meet at a period not far remote; for we are convinced that the apprehenſions and diſcontents which thoſe articles occaſion cannot be removed or allayed, unleſs an act to provide for it be among the firſt that ſhall be paſſed by the New Congreſs.—As it is eſſential that an application for the purpoſe ſhould be made to them by two thirds of the ſtates, we earneſtly exhort and requeſt the legiſlature of your commonwealth to take the earlieſt opportunity of making it. We are perſuaded that a ſimilar one will be made by our legiſlature, at their next ſeſſion; and we ardently wiſh and deſire, that the other ſtates may concur in adopting and promoting the meaſure. It cannot be neceſſary to obſerve that no government, however conſtructed, can operate well, unleſs it poſſeſſes the confidence and good will of the great body of the people; and as we deſire nothing more than that the amendments propoſed by this or other ſtates be ſubmitted to the conſideration and deciſion of a General Convention, we flatter ourſelves that motives of mutual affection and conciliation will conſpire with the obvious dictates of ſound policy, to induce even ſuch of the ſtates as may be content with every article in the Conſtitution to gratify the reaſonable deſires of that numerous claſs of *American* citizens, who are anxious to obtain amendments of ſome of them.

Our amendments will manifeſt that none of them originated in local views, as they are ſuch as, if acceded to, muſt equally affect every ſtate in the union.

Our attachment to our ſiſter ſtates, and the confidence we repoſe in them, cannot be more forcibly demonſtrated, than by acceding to a government which many of us think very imperfect, and devolving the power of determining whether that government ſhall be rendered perpetual in its preſent form, or altered agreeable to our wiſhes, on a minority of the ſtates with whom we unite.

We requeſt the favor of your Excellency to lay this letter before the legiſlature of your commonwealth; and we are perſuaded that your regard for our national harmony and good government will induce you to promote a meaſure, which we are unanimous in thinking very conducive to thoſe intereſting objects.

We have the honor to be, with the higheſt reſpect,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervants.

By the unanimous order of the Convention,

GEO. CLINTON, *Preſident.*

His Excellency the GOVERNOR
of Pennſylvania.

Edenton, 12*th Auguſt,* 1788.

SIR,

BY order of the Convention of the people of *North-Carolina*, aſſembled to deliberate on the adoption of the Conſtitution propoſed for the Government of the United States of *America*, I ſend you the incloſed extract from the journal of their proceedings.

I have the honor to be, with great conſideration and reſpect,

SIR,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervant,

SAM. JOHNSTON, *Preſident.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of the ſtate of Pennſylvania.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 9, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its encloſures, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 8*th,* 1788.

SIR,

BY direction of the board I do myſelf the honor to tranſmit you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, an act of Congreſs paſſed the 4th inſtant, by which the United States relinquiſh and transfer to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* all their right, title and claim, to the government and juriſdiction

tion of the tract of land on *Lake Erie,* which the ſtate has agreed to purchaſe of the United States.

By accounts from *Pittſburg,* a pacific diſpoſition is manifeſted on the part of the *Indians,* and there is now reaſon to expect a large meeting of the northern and weſtern tribes at *Muſkingum,* to hold a treaty with the continental commiſſioners. This favorable opportunity ought not, in the opinion of Council, to be miſſed; for although the quantity of land in the triangle purchaſed from the Board of Treaſury cannot be aſcertained with preciſion before the neceſſary lines are run, agreeably to the act of Congreſs of the 6th day of *June* laſt, yet, as a great part of the expence attending treaties with *Indians* is incurred by collecting and furniſhing them with proviſions, charges which in this inſtance may be avoided—Council therefore earneſtly recommend the appointing commiſſioners on the part of this ſtate to attend the enſuing treaty, for purchaſing from the *Indians,* who may appear to have juſt claims to the ſame, the whole of the triangle aforeſaid, as nearly as the bounds of the ſame may be aſcertained by the beſt information which can be now obtained.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,

P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable Thomas Mifflin, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

By the United States *in* Congress *aſſembled, June 6th,* 1788.

ON the report of a committee, conſiſting of Mr. *Clark,* Mr. *Irvine,* Mr. *Armſtrong,* Mr. *Wadſworth* and Mr. *Brown,* to whom was referred a motion of Mr. *Irvine,*

Reſolved, That the Geographer of the United States be, and he is hereby directed to aſcertain by himſelf, or by a deputy duly appointed for the purpoſe, the boundary line between the United States and the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts,* agreeably to the deeds of ceſſion of the ſaid ſtates.

That the ſaid Geographer inform the Executives of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts* of the time of running the ſaid line, in order that they or either of them may, if they think proper, have perſons attending at the time.

That the ſaid Geographer, or his deputy, having run the meridian between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and marked, and noted down in his field book, proper land marks for perpetuating the ſame, ſhall proceed to make a ſurvey of the land lying weſt of the ſaid line, between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* ſo as to aſcertain the quantity thereof, and make return of ſuch ſurvey to the Board of Treaſury, who are hereby authoriſed and empowered, at any time before or after ſuch ſurvey, to ſell the ſaid tract, in whole, at private ſale, for a price not leſs than three fourths of a dollar per acre in ſpecie, or public ſecurities drawing intereſt.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

In COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, June* 14*th,* 1788.

COUNCIL reſumed the conſideration of the letter from the delegates of this ſtate, and the act of Congreſs incloſed therein, which were received on the twelfth inſtant, reſpecting a ſurvey to fix the boundary and determine the quantity of land within the territory adjoining the northern boundary of this ſtate, belonging to the United States, and authorizing the Board of Treaſury of the United States to ſell the ſaid land, in whole, at private ſale, for a price not leſs than three fourths of a dollar per acre in ſpecie, or public ſecurities drawing intereſt.

Reſolved, That the Preſident inform our delegates in Congreſs, that they are authoriſed and empowered by this board to negotiate and contract with Congreſs, in behalf of this ſtate, for the purchaſe of the lands before deſcribed at the rate of three quarters of a dollar per acre in ſpecie, or public ſecurities bearing intereſt.

Extract from the minutes,

JAMES TRIMBLE, *for*

CHARLES BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

WE, the delegates of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* in compliance with inſtructions, and in virtue of powers, received from the ſaid ſtate, do hereby offer to contract (in behalf of the ſaid ſtate) with the Honorable Board of Treaſury, for a tract of land belonging to the United States, contained in the interval betwixt a meridian line run between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and the boundaries of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts,* at the rate of three fourths of a dollar per acre, payable in gold or ſilver, or in public ſecurities of the United States bearing intereſt, when the quantity is aſcertained by actual ſurvey, in the manner preſcribed by a reſolution of Congreſs of the 7th of *June,* 1788.

(Signed) WM. BINGHAM,
JAMES R. REID.

New-York, July 7, 1788.

(True Copy)
SAMUEL OSGOOD,
ARTHUR LEE.

Board of Treaſury, Auguſt 28, 1788.

GENTLEMEN,

THE United States in Congreſs having, by their act of the 20th inſtant, determined that no reſervations are in their judgment neceſſary to be made on account of the United States in a certain tract of land, contained in the interval betwixt a meridian line run between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and the boundaries of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts*—we beg leave to acquaint you that we accept your propoſal for the purchaſe of the ſaid tract, in behalf of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, as expreſſed in your letter of the 7th *July*, 1788.

We have the honor to be, with great reſpect,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient humble ſervants,

SAMUEL OSGOOD,
ARTHUR LEE.

To the Honorable the DELEGATES *of the State of* Pennſylvania.

By the UNITED STATES *in* CONGRESS *aſſembled, September 4th,* 1788.

ON a report of a committee, conſiſting of Mr. *Dane*, Mr. *Sedgwick* and Mr. *Madiſon*, to whom was referred a motion of the delegates of *Pennſylvania*.

Whereas it appears that the Board of Treaſury, in conformity to the act of Congreſs of the 6th of *June* laſt, have entered into a contract with the delegates of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, in behalf of the ſaid ſtate, for the tract of land, bounded eaſt, agreeably to the ceſſion of weſtern territory, by the ſtates of *Maſſachuſetts* and *New-York*; ſouth by *Pennſylvania*; north and weſt by *Lake Erie*: And whereas the ſaid tract is entirely ſeparated from the other lands of the weſtern territory over which the juriſdiction of the United States extends: And whereas, under theſe circumſtances, it will be expedient for the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* to hold and exerciſe juriſdiction over the tract aforeſaid: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the United States do hereby relinquiſh and transfer all their right, title and claim to the government and juriſdiction of the ſaid tract of land to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* for ever; and it is hereby declared and made known, that the laws and public acts of the ſaid ſtate ſhall extend over every part of the ſame tract, to all intents and purpoſes, as if the ſame had been originally within the charter bounds of the ſaid ſtate; provided that the inhabitants of the ſaid tract ſhall be maintained in all the rights and privileges which other citizens of the ſaid ſtate of *Pennſylvania* are now or may hereafter be conſtitutionally entitled to enjoy.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

A REPORT *of the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the State of* Pennſylvania.

THAT they have negociated with Congreſs for purchaſing the tract of land, contained in the interval betwixt a meridian line run between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, and the boundaries of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts*, at the rate of three quarters of a dollar per acre, payable in gold or ſilver, or in public ſecurities of the United States bearing intereſt, when the quantity is aſcertained by actual ſurvey, in the manner preſcribed by a reſolution of Congreſs of the 6th of laſt *June*, as more fully appears by the accompanying inſtructions to our delegates in Congreſs, of the

14th day of *June* laſt—their propoſals to the Board of Treaſury of the 7th of *July*—and the ſaid Board's final acceptance of the terms on the 28th day of *Auguſt* laſt.

An eſtimate of other probable expenditures that may be incurred by the purchaſe is herewith preſented, amounting to the ſum of *nine hundred and fifty* pounds.

To conclude the buſineſs with the United States, it now remains for the General Aſſembly to make the requiſite appropriation of public ſecurities, and to aſſign funds whence the other expences may be drawn.

1788, *September*.

An ESTIMATE *of the expence that may probably attend the buſineſs of the* Lake Erie *lands, if it ſhould be directed to purchaſe the claim of the Six Nations of* Indians.

	£.	s.	d.
SUPPOSED price in various ſuitable articles, amounting to one thouſand dollars, - - -	375	0	0
Proviſions of different kinds, - - -	100	0	0
Charges of waggonage, boat hire, &c. - -	150	0	0
Pay of commiſſioners, hire of interpreters, runners, &c.	250	0	0
Preſents to the great men, - - -	75	0	0
	£ 950	0	0

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report an eſtimate of the expence which may be neceſſarily incurred in attending the treaty alluded to in the ſaid letter.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, appointing Commiſſioners to run the line dividing the ſaid county from the counties of *Bedford* and *Northumberland*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Saylor*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Daviſon*, to report thereon.

A petition from the commiſſioners of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, ſetting forth, that by the act erecting the ſaid county the proportion of taxes for the payment of the public debts has not been aſcertained, and praying this Houſe may, by a ſupplement to the ſaid law, eſtabliſh and declare the ſum to be aſſeſſed and collected in and for the ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *Robert Leſlie* was read, referring to his petition read *March* 8th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Alliſon* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Sarah Caldwell*, in behalf of herſelf and children, was read, ſetting forth, that on the 18th day of *January* laſt ſhe loſt certificates of this ſtate, amounting to *two thouſand five hundred and ſeventeen pounds twelve ſhillings and ſeven-pence*, the property of her ſaid children; and praying an act may be paſſed to enable the Treaſurer to pay the intereſt due on the ſaid certificates, or the Comptroller-General to iſſue new ones in lieu of thoſe which have been loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Potters* and *Bald Eagle*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying that the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a* "*ſeparate county*," may be paſſed into a law, the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid intended county fixed at *Kiſhicoquillis* Old-town, and ſaid townſhips annexed thereto.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Lewis* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented and conſtructed a water-engine for raiſing of water 36 feet above its level, and that he hath alſo conſtructed a boat of 25 tons burthen, which will proceed up any ſtream capable to float the ſame with the aſſiſtance of three men only, and praying encouragement from the Houſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

Petitions from about 700 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying that the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the* "*counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county*," may be ſo amended, as not to extend further up the *Youghiogeny* than *Crawford's* ſleeping place, and from thence by a ſtraight line to the mouth of *Plumb* creek, on the *Allegheny* river.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Wyoming*, and parts of the townſhips of *Cattaweſſy* and *Mahoning*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying they may be erected into a ſeparate diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding their general elections; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Maclay*, Mr. *White* and Mr. *Daviſon*, with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petitions of a number of the freemen of the third election diſtrict in the county of *Northumberland*, and of divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Penns* and *Beaver*, in the ſaid county, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

A petition from *Andrew Kuntz* was read, praying payment for a ſervant enliſted in the army of the United States, and taken priſoner at *Fort Waſhington*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others.

A petition from *Abraham Anderſon*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from confinement; and on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Salter*, to report thereon.

A petition from the committee of the public creditors was read, praying an act may be paſſed, making the bills of credit emitted by this ſtate in the year 1785 receivable in the payment of all the taxes and aſſeſſments within this ſtate, and of all fees to officers; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Agnes Downey*, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Flenniken* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of the members of the religious ſociety of *German* Roman Catholics of the church called the *Holy Trinity*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *September* 6th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The petition of *Benjamin Moore*, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Franklin*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Burkhalter* and Mr. *Schott*, with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants reſiding on and near the river *Coneſtogoe*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read *March* 27th laſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on that part of the Meſſage relative to a gun-powder magazine, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *John Armſtrong*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be informed that the Houſe deem it inexpedient at this time to comply with the requeſt of Captain *John Armſtrong*, contained in his petition to Council, and by them tranſmitted to this Houſe.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to alter and amend an "act, entituled "*An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated* "*lands within this ſtate*," be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read *March* 8th laſt; and in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to iſſue a certificate to the ſaid petitioners for *ſeven pounds five ſhillings and four-pence,* bearing intereſt from the 9th day of *July,* 1779, as an equivalent to *one hundred and thirty-eight pounds,* a forfeited debt, paid to *Iſaac Snowden,* Eſquire, Treaſurer, *July* 9th, 1779, as appears by his certificate.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* German *Roman* " *Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, *in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 10, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, State Treaſurer, was read, ſtating that there is now in the treaſury the ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds* in bills of credit, pierced and ready to be burned, whenever this Houſe ſhall direct.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Prahl,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying this Houſe to grant him a reaſonable compenſation for the arms, *&c.* made by him for the uſe of this ſtate, and taken by the enemy on the 28th *September,* 1777.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Tredyffrin* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter,* was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The petition of *Sarah Caldwell,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The report read *March* 20th laſt, on the accounts of *Gunning Bedford* and others, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the balance of their accounts.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Philips,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this* " *commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to divide "*Waſhington* county into election diſtricts," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the* "*ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 11, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 10*th*, 1788.

SIR,

I Have the honor to encloſe you, by order of Council, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, a petition from *Jacob Gerhart*, one of the Collectors in *Montgomery* county, whoſe caſe, if truly ſtated, claims the attention of the legiſlature.

I have the honor to be, with great reſpect,

SIR,

Your obedient and very humble ſervant,

P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire*,
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the incloſed petition was alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Cart* was read, ſetting forth, that the right to two city lots, marked in the general plan of the city of *Philadelphia* No. 78 and No. 79, is veſted in him by deſcent; and that he made application to the Supreme Executive Council for a confirmation thereof, but the act authoriſing Council to eſtabliſh and confirm ſuch claims having expired the day preceding his application, his petition was rejected; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the contributors towards the founding and endowing a public ſchool for the town and county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying that a proportionable part of the public lands reſerved for the endowment of public ſchools may be appropriated by law for the county ſchool now founding in the town of *Huntingdon* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be, and they are hereby authoriſed and directed to count, burn and deſtroy *twenty thouſand pounds* of the bills of credit emitted by virtue of the act, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing* "*the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the* "*United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of* "*this ſtate,*" by the ſaid Treaſurer pierced for that purpoſe, and report to this Houſe.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh* "*a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes there*-"*in mentioned,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe, in conformity to their reſolution of the ſixth inſtant, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of hearing counſel in behalf of the Pilots plying in the bay and river *Delaware,* on the ſubject of the ſaid bill.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and Mr. *Wynkoop* was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the ſaid counſel,

The Chairman quitted the chair, and the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported that the committee had heard the counſel in behalf of the Pilots, on the ſubject of the ſaid bill: Whereupon

The bill being again before the Houſe,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the "river *Coneſtogo,* in the county of *Lancaſter,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in the county of* Northum-"berland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of holding elections in the* "*third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſh-"ington *into a ſeparate county,*" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 12, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying *Aughwick* creek may be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Edward Stiles,* read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with its incloſures, be referred to Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Reiff* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The addreſs and memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald,* read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *J. Heiſter,* Mr. *Irvine,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *M'Lene,* for the purpoſe of reporting the form and order of proceeding thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on that part of the meſſage from Council relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the gun-powder magazine, poſtponed *September* 9th, and in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to conſider of a ſpot ſuitable for a gun-powder magazine, without the city of *Philadelphia,* and at a ſafe diſtance from it, and to negociate the purchaſe.

On the queſtion—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid reſolution?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *M'Lene,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Willing,*
17 *Townſend Wheelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.

20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *John Hopkins,*
22 *William Mitchell,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*
24 *John Oliver,*
25 *Philip Kreemer,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28 *Peter Ealer,*
29 *Jacob Saylor,*
30 *John Irvine,*
31 *John Flenniken,*
32 *Jacob Reiff,*
33 *Robert Lollar,*
34 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
35 *Peter Richards,*
36 *John Paul Schott,*
37 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Joſeph Reed,*
2 *David Mitchell,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *Joſeph Sands,*
6 *Peter Burkhalter,*
7 *John Piper,*
8 *Samuel Maclay,*
9 *John White,*
10 *William Findley,*

NAYS.

11 *James Barr,*
12 *John M'Dowell,*
13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *Theophilus Philips,*
16 *John Gilchreeſt,*
17 *James M'Lene,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Jacob Miley,*
20 *Robert Clark.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious* "*ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in* "*the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of* "*holding elections in the third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious* "*ſociety of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary's *church,* "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 13, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the taxable property within the county of *Franklin,* for the year 1788, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Clendinnen,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants and landholders of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for building a draw-bridge acroſs* Cohockſinck *creek, in the* "Northern Liberties *of the city of* Philadelphia," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Kutz* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 6th, on that part of the meſſage relative to an aſſay of plate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 10th, on the petition of *Sarah Caldwell,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on that part of the meſſage relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from the Vice-Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, reſpecting the purchaſe of the triangular piece of land, lying between the weſtern line of *New-York,* the northern line of *Pennſylvania* and part of *Lake Erie,* including the whole country within the ſaid boundaries, lately made by Council, through the delegates of this ſtate, of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, beg leave to report,——

That they have deliberately conſidered the ſaid letter and the papers accompanying the ſame, and have thereupon conferred with Council on the ſubject matter thereof.

That your committee are of opinion that the purchaſe made by Council is advantageous to this commonwealth, and ſhould be confirmed by this Houſe.

That it will therefore be neceſſary to provide adequate funds for complying with the contract, and making the purchaſe of the country from the *Indians*, agreeably to the policy and juſtice which have ever marked the conduct of *Pennſylvania* in ſuch caſes.

That as a treaty is now about to be held with the *Indians* at *Muſkingum*, it will be proper and œconomical to take advantage of this circumſtance to make overtures at leaſt, and, if practicable, to compleat the purchaſe of the ſaid country from the ſavages. The expence and delay of a particular treaty for ſo ſmall an object will hereby be avoided.

That in order to aſcertain, as nearly as might be, the quantity of land which was the ſubject of the contract, your committee requeſted the attendance of Mr. *Ellicot*, an intelligent perſon, and well acquainted with that country. But as the meridian line forming the weſtern boundary of *New-York* is not actually run, the quantity cannot with any degree of accuracy be aſcertained. On an eſtimate calculated on the ſuppoſed place of the ſaid meridian in a point of the northern line of *Pennſylvania*, the moſt favorable to the pretenſions of *New-York*, there appear to be about one million of acres contained within the boundaries of this purchaſe. Wherefore your committee are of opinion that the following reſolutions be recommended to the conſideration of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That this Houſe accept, on the part of this commonwealth, the contract made with the Board of Treaſury of the United States, by the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate, through the agency of the delegates of this ſtate in Congreſs, as mentioned in the propoſals of the ſaid delegates, dated the 7th day of *July* in the preſent year, referring to a reſolution of Congreſs of the 6th *June* in the ſame year, being the reſolution of Congreſs intended to be recited in the ſaid contract, which propoſals were accepted and agreed to by the ſaid Board of Treaſury on the 20th day of *Auguſt* laſt paſt, on the part of the United States; the ſaid propoſals and acceptance relating to a triangular piece or tract of country, ſituate, lying and being on *Lake Erie*; bounded on the eaſt by a meridian line, part of the weſtern boundary of the ſtate of *New-York*; on the ſouth by part of the northern boundary of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, being a continuation of the line between this ſtate and that of *New-York*, from the weſtern boundary of the ſaid ſtate till it interſects the ſaid *Lake Erie*; and thence by the ſaid lake, including *Preſque Iſle*, and running north-eaſterly, or as the margin of the ſaid lake runs, according to the ſeveral courſes thereof (with all benefit, property and advantages of the coaſts, bays and inlets, on and near that part of the margin of the ſaid lake which is the boundary of the country herein deſcribed or intended ſo to be) till it meets the ſaid meridian line before mentioned; and the ſaid contract and agreement is hereby confirmed, ratified and agreed to, by and on the part of this ſtate.

That it is hereby recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, to provide certificates of debts due from the United

States,

States, fully to pay and diſcharge the conſideration monies due agreeably to the ſaid contract, at three fourths of a dollar per acre, according to the terms of the ſaid contract, ſo ſoon as the ſame land ſhall be ſurveyed, and the quantity aſcertained, in the manner preſcribed by the reſolution of Congreſs of the 6th of *June* laſt, and the ſaid before deſcribed tract conveyed to this commonwealth.

That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and fully empowered to take the neceſſary ſteps for purchaſing of the *Indians*, who have juſt claims thereto, the ſaid tract of country, and for this purpoſe to appoint, when they may think it neceſſary, two perſons as Commiſſioners to negociate and complete the ſaid purchaſe.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and empowered to draw on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for a ſum not exceeding *nine hundred and fifty pounds*, for the purpoſe of making the purchaſe of the *Indians* of the ſaid tract, and bearing all expences of the ſame, agreeably to an eſtimate by the ſaid Council communicated to this Houſe.

That, as there is a preſſing neceſſity of immediately raiſing the ſaid ſum of *nine hundred and fifty pounds*, the committee of ways and means be, and they are hereby directed to report the beſt and ſpeedieſt mode of procuring and paying the ſaid ſum to the order of the Supreme Executive Council.

A member, having obtained leave, read in his place, and preſented to the chair, a bill, entituled " *An Act for ſuſpending for a limited time the ſale of " unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes*," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth.*

An ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary's *church, in the city of* Philadelphia.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

A motion was then made to adjourn, which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, September 15, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Van Campen* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *and for con- " firming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them " claimed within the county of* Luzerne," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *September* 8th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming.*

Petitions from 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, ſetting forth that *George Fry,* of *Middletown,* in the ſaid county, hath at a conſiderable expence erected a mill and dug a race, about one mile and a half in length, for the purpoſe of conducting the waters of *Swetara* creek to the ſaid mill, but finds it neceſſary to erect a tumbling dam ſufficient to ſwell the waters of the ſaid creek about three feet above its common level; therefore praying this Houſe to give him leave to bring in a bill for the aforeſaid purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Peters,* poſtponed *March* 28th laſt, was reſumed, and after ſome debtae,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Sarah Caldwell,* read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Sarah Caldwell,* report——

That it appears, by a certificate ſigned by the Comptroller-General, that there was iſſued from that office three certificates to *Andrew Caldwell,* for the reſpective ſums of *ſeven hundred and thirty-four pounds twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence, ſix hundred and forty-nine pounds eleven ſhillings and two-pence,* and *five hundred and eighty-ſix pounds ten ſhillings;* and to *Sarah Caldwell* eight certificates, for the following ſums, *twenty-one pounds ſixteen ſhillings and five-pence, twenty-three pounds fifteen ſhillings and nine-pence, ſixty-ſix pounds eighteen ſhillings and eleven-pence, forty-one pounds five ſhillings, thirty-eight pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence, one hundred and ſixty-five pounds two ſhillings and ſix-pence, one hundred and ſeventy-one pounds twelve ſhillings and four-pence, fourteen pounds one ſhilling and three-pence,* making *five hundred and forty-two pounds eighteen ſhillings and ten-pence.*

And by an affidavit of the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell* it appears, that all the above certificates were the property of her the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell* and her five children, and were loſt by her on the 18th day of *January* laſt.

The committee were deſirous of recommending a general law to provide for all caſes of a like nature, but, upon the fulleſt conſideration, were induced to believe none could be deviſed, that would not be liable to abuſe.

They are nevertheleſs of opinion that the petitioner's caſe merits the interference of the legiſlature, and therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to certify to the State Treaſurer the annual intereſt due on the certificates loſt by *Sarah Caldwell,* and to authoriſe the State Treaſurer to pay ſuch intereſt annually, on receiving ſuch acknowledgment for the payments ſo to be made, as will prevent the ſtate from being again liable therefor.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this* " *commonwealth*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the due " collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the better aſcertaining and making good* " *loſſes of public monies by robberies*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral im-* " *poſt laws of this ſtate, as confine the allowing of drawbacks on goods exported* " *to the original importers thereof, and oblige the exporters to produce certifi-* " *cates of the landing of ſuch goods*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 16, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating many inconveniencies in the preſent mode of enforcing the ſpeedy collection and payment of taxes, and ſuggeſting the propriety of divers alterations in the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 12th, on the addreſs and memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time; and in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved*, That as the General Aſſembly is of the nature of a Grand In-" queſt for the ſtate, this Houſe will reſolve itſelf into a committee of the " whole, to enquire, by parole or other evidence, into the truth of the " charges exhibited in the memorial of the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the " Judges of the Supreme Court, and to determine whether or not the charges " are a ſufficient ground for impeaching the ſaid Judges."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

To amend the ſaid reſolution, by inſerting, after the word " *will*," the words " *on* Tueſday *next*."

Which was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

To re-conſider the ſaid amendment, in order to ſtrike out the words " *on* Tueſday *next*.'"

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to re-conſider the ſaid amendment, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Beale*,

YEAS.

3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

5 *John M'Dowell,*
6 *James M'Lene,*

YEAS.

7 *James M'Calmont,*
8 *Robert Clark.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *George Logan,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *James Clemſon,*
20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *John Hopkins,*
22 *William Mitchell,*
23 *Joſeph Reed,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *John Oliver,*
26 *Joſeph Heiſter,*

NAYS.

27 *Joſeph Sands,*
28 *Philip Kreemer,*
29 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
30 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
31 *Peter Burkhalter,*
32 *Peter Ealer,*
33 *Jacob Saylor,*
34 *Samuel Maclay,*
35 *John White,*
36 *William Findley,*
37 *James Barr,*
38 *John Irvine,*
39 *James Alliſon,*
40 *Alexander Wright,*
41 *John Flenniken,*
42 *Theophilus Philips,*
43 *John Gilchreeſt,*
44 *Jacob Reiff,*
45 *Robert Lollar,*
46 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
47 *Peter Richards,*
48 *Jacob Miley,*
49 *John Carſon,*
50 *John Paul Schott,*
51 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

Whereupon the ſaid reſolution, as amended, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

That this Houſe will, on *Tueſday* next, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, to enquire, by parole or other evidence, into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court, and to determine whether or not the charges are a ſufficient ground for impeaching the ſaid Judges.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Saturday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery;*" and having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſuſpending, for a limited time, the ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes,*" and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of the ſuffering inhabitants of the townſhips of* Wayne *and* Derry, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 17, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Tranſcripts of taxes aſſeſſed on the inhabitants and taxable property of and in the counties of *Berks* and *Weſtmoreland,* for the year 1788, were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the delegates repreſenting this ſtate, in the Congreſs of the United States, directed to the Speaker, was read, as follows, *viz.*

New-York, 13*th September,* 1788.

SIR,

THIS letter will be accompanied by an act of Congreſs of this morning, which Mr. Secretary *Thomſon* will have the honor of tranſmitting.

The public intereſt and expectation excited by the ſubject of it—the time employed in its diſcuſſion—and the temper in which it has been advocated by ſome ſtates and oppoſed by others, make it not leſs neceſſary, than reſpectful, that we ſhould ſtate the facts under which we gave the aſſent of *Pennſylvania* to the deciſion which has been taken: Theſe are——

1ſt. That ſome ſtates, who invariably contended with us for giving a more central reſidence to the national government, withdrew themſelves from Congreſs while the diſpute was depending; leaving the minority extremely ſmall, and without a hope of ſucceeding, but ſuch as grew out of the bare poſſibility of a change of ſentiment, or relaxation of obſtinacy in the majority.

And 2d. That others of the ſame deſcription, believing that the organization of the new government could not be longer ſuſpended, without riſquing conſequences more diſagreeable than any that could reſult from the mere circumſtance of the place at which the government might be convened—determined to yield the objections they had made, and acquieſce in the appointment of *New-York.*

Under theſe facts the delegates of *Pennſylvania* were left to chooſe between oppoſing alone and unſucceſsfully, or ſubmitting to the predetermined ſenſe of the union. We did not heſitate in chooſing the latter, perſuaded that, of the two alternatives, this was at once the moſt dignified and wiſe.

We are, SIR,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,
WM. IRVINE,
SAM. MEREDITH,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, JUN.
JAMES R. REID.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of the*
General Aſſembly of Pennſylvania,

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its incloſures, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *September* 16*th*, 1788.

SIR,

THE incloſed letter from our delegates, together with a letter from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, incloſing an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for putting into operation the conſtitution now ratified by the Conventions of eleven ſtates, the Board direct me to tranſmit to you, the conſideration of the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
B. FRANKLIN.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire.*

A letter directed to his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing letter directed to Mr. Speaker, was alſo tranſmitted, and read.

(CIRCULAR)

OFFICE *of* SECRETARY *of* CONGRESS, *September* 13*th*, 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency, herewith encloſed, an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for putting into operation the conſtitution now ratified by the Conventions of eleven ſtates.

With great reſpect, I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient
And moſt humble ſervant,
CHARLES THOMSON.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of Pennſylvania.

By the UNITED STATES *in* CONGRESS *aſſembled, September* 13*th*, 1788.

WHEREAS the Convention aſſembled in *Philadelphia*, purſuant to the reſolution of Congreſs of the 21ſt *February*, 1787, did, on the 17th of *September* in the ſame year, report to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled a conſtitution for the people of the United States; whereupon Congreſs, on the 28th of the ſame *September*, did reſolve unanimouſly, "That the ſaid report, with the reſolutions and letter accompanying the ſame, be tranſmitted to the ſeveral Legiſlatures, in order to be ſubmitted to a Convention of delegates choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, in conformity to the reſolves of the Convention made and provided in that caſe."

And whereas the conſtitution ſo reported by the Convention, and by Congreſs tranſmitted to the ſeveral Legiſlatures, has been ratified in the manner therein declared to be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of the ſame, and ſuch ratifications, duly authenticated, have been received by Congreſs, and are filed in the office of the Secretary: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the firſt *Wedneſday* in *January* next be the day for appointing electors in the ſeveral ſtates, which before the ſaid day ſhall have ratified the ſaid conſtitution; that the firſt *Wedneſday* in *February* next, be the day for the electors to aſſemble in their reſpective ſtates, and vote for a Preſident; and that the firſt *Wedneſday* in *March* next be the time, and the preſent ſeat of Congreſs the place, for commencing proceedings under the ſaid conſtitution.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

A petition from *Frances Ramie* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband, *Lawrence Ramie,* purchaſed and improved a tract of land at the upper end of *Nanticoke* town, in the county of *Luzerne,* and was turned out of the poſſeſſion of the ſaid land in a lawleſs manner, and otherwiſe conſiderably injured in his property, by a certain *John Franklin* and others, and praying this Houſe to grant her relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Margaret Jones,* widow of *Gibbs Jones,* late a Captain in the *Pennſylvania* artillery, was read, ſetting forth, that her ſaid late huſband acted as Deputy-barrack-maſter in the city of *Philadelphia,* for which no full compenſation hath been made, and praying this Houſe to grant her relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Greenwood,* in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" and praying they may not be included within the lines of the new county propoſed to be erected.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Penn*'s valley, in the county of *Northumberland,* of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing petition of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Greenwood,* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, praying that the quit-rents impoſed on the proprietary tenths or manors may be extinguiſhed and aboliſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the petition of *Abraham Anderſon,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Abraham Anderſon* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* " Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter.

An ACT *to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral impoſt laws of this ſtate, as confines the allowing of drawbacks on goods exported to the original importers thereof, and obliges the exporter to produce certificates of the landing of ſuch goods.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 18, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

In COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 18*th*, 1788.

SIR,

BY direction of Council I do myſelf the honor to tranſmit you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, a memorial from Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and company, merchants, of this city—two letters, the one from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, Secretary of Congreſs, incloſing a ſtate of the repreſentation in Congreſs for the months of *June, July* and *Auguſt*, 1788, and the other from the Honorable *Samuel Johnſton*, Eſquire, Preſident of the Convention of the ſtate of *North-Carolina*, incloſing two reſolutions of the ſaid Convention; together with a letter from his Excellency *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire, Governor of the weſtern territory, dated the firſt inſtant, which is juſt come to hand.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

The Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from a number of the inhabitants of *Upper Bald-Eagle* and *Potter*'s townſhips, in the weſt end of *Penn*'s valley, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſtating that they were inadvertently induced to ſign a petition to be included within the boundaries of the new county propoſed to be erected by the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" and praying they may be continued as part of the ſaid county of *Northumberland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 732 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Milford*, *Lack*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county*," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the *Northern-Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that their endeavours in the encouragement and improvement of the *Callowhill* market are fruſtrated, by butchers and others hawking meat, *&c.* for ſale within the ſaid *Liberties*, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Philadelphia* county, to report thereon.

A petition from *Abraham Morrow* was read, ſetting forth, that he was employed in repairing the arms of the militia of the county of *Philadelphia*, and for which he hath not been paid, and praying this houſe to direct payment thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others.

A petition from *John Spand*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

A tranſcript of the accounts of the managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for the preceding year was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter of his Excellency the Preſident, and the act of Congreſs for putting into operation the conſtitution now ratified by eleven ſtates, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, with inſtructions to report the principles of a bill, if they think proper

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſuſpending, for a limited time, the ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday,

Friday, September 19, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Robert R. Hunter* and *John Pincaut*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kremeer*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Elizabeth Parker* was read, ſetting forth, that ſhe was appointed matron to the General Hoſpital on the 3d *May*, 1777, and continued in that ſervice until *September* 1ſt, 1779, and praying ſhe may be allowed the depreciation due on her pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others.

A petition from *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan*, priſoners under ſentence of death, by virtue of certain proceedings to out-lawry had againſt them, was read, praying the interpoſition of the legiſlature, in order to reſtore them to the ineſtimable privilege of trial by jury; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Findley*, to make report thereon.

Petitions from 1573 inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of* "*the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county*," may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 19*th*, 1788.

SIR,

THE memorial of *David Linton*, of the county of *Lancaſter*, is encloſed for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly. The merits of this active citizen in apprehending a daring villain, in the opinion of Council, claim the attention and ſome reward from your honorable Houſe.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid letter and memorial were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kreemer* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, dated *September* 18th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the memorial of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from his Excellency *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire, Governor of the weſtern territory, together with the ſeveral papers on the ſame ſubject, be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M‘Calmont*, with inſtructions to confer with Council, if they deem it neceſſary, and report thereon.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report, that they have received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds* in bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by act of General Aſſembly paſſed *March* 16th, 1785, *viz.*

10000 bills of *twenty ſhillings* each,	£ 10000	0	0
10000 ditto of *fifteen ſhillings* each,	7500	0	0
4800 ditto of *ten ſhillings* each,	2400	0	0
400 ditto of *five ſhillings* each,	100	0	0
	£ 20000	0	0

All of which aboveſaid bills we have examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to* “ *the act, entituled* “ An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of “ taxes within this commonwealth,” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act for the payment of an additional ſum of money to* Gunning Bedford, *and* “ *others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal arch in the city of* Philadelphia,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* “ Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of the ſtate, and the public arms* “ *and ſtores,*” was read the third time; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſenta- “ tives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General “ Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, that the Supreme Execu- “ tive Council be authoriſed, and they are hereby authoriſed and directed to “ draw their warrant on the State Treaſurer, in favor of Lieutenant-Colonel “ *Francis Mentges*, for the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, as a full compenſation “ for the ſervices rendered as aforeſaid.”

On the queſtion—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Robert Ralſton*,
11 *James Moore*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *William Mitchell*,

YEAS.

19 *David M'Clellan*,
20 *Joſeph Lilley*,
21 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
22 *Philip Kreemer*,
23 *Joſeph Sands*,
24 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
25 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
26 *Peter Burkhalter*,
27 *Peter Ealer*,
28 *Jacob Saylor*,
29 *John Irvine*,
30 *Theophilus Philips*,
31 *Robert Lollar*,
32 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
33 *Peter Richards*,
34 *John Carſon*,
35 *John Paul Schott*,
36 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Samuel Foulke*,
3 *Valentine Upp*,
4 *James Clemſon*,
5 *Jacob Erb*,
6 *John Hopkins*,
7 *Joſeph Reed*,
8 *David Mitchell*,
9 *Thomas Beale*,
10 *Thomas Kennedy*,
11 *John Oliver*,
12 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

13 *William Findley*,
14 *James Barr*,
15 *John M'Dowell*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *John Gilchreeſt*,
20 *James M'Lene*,
21 *James M'Calmont*,
22 *Jacob Reiff*,
23 *Robert Clark*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 20, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Elizabeth Kutz*, read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Northampton*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, incloſing the petition of *John M'Calmont*, read *March* 8th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the ſaid petition, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county;*" and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Monday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of the ſtate and the public arms and ſtores,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, September 22, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 22, 1788.

SIR,

THE encloſed letter from *Charles Thomſon,* Eſquire, together with an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, paſſed the ſixteenth inſtant, the board direct me to tranſmit to you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſaid letter, with its encloſures, be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

Petitions from *David Griffith* and *Joſeph R. Robinſon* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer,* to report thereon.

A petition from 200 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying that the ſentence of death on out-lawry againſt *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan* may be reverſed, and they admitted to the benefit of a trial by jury.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Eleazer Oſwald,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* printer, was read, praying ſummonſes may iſſue to compel the attendance of witneſſes on his part, in ſupport of the charges contained in his memorial, read *September* 5th, againſt three of the Judges of the Supreme Court; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed to iſſue ſubpœnas, for the attendance of the witneſſes named in a liſt preſented with the ſaid memorial.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of* "*the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 19th, on the petition of *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan,* reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to reverſe the out-*"*lawries of* Levi Doan *and* Abraham Doan, *priſoners in the gaol of* Philadel-"phia *county, under ſentence of death, upon the ſaid out-lawries,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* "Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the powers of the* "*Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale of unſeated lands* "*for non-payment of taxes,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion,

Ordered, That one hundred and fifty copies of the aforeſaid act be printed, and tranſmitted to the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties, for their government.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 23, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *John Clendenen,* read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 19th, on the petition of *David Linton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 18th, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, with its encloſures, relative to the organization of the conſtitution adopted for the government of the United States, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections* "*for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the United* "*States, and of appointing electors on the part of this ſtate for the choice of a* "*Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to enquire into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, Mr. *Peters* was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made ſome progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again in the afternoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reverſe the out-lawries of* Levi Doan *and* "Abraham Doan, *priſoners in the goal of* Philadelphia, *under ſentence of death, upon the ſaid out-lawries,*" was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſem-"bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all and every the proceſs "and proceedings in out-lawry, iſſued and had againſt them the ſaid *Levi* "*Doan* and *Abraham Doan*, and each of them, upon the ſaid indictments, "or any other indictments againſt them or either of them, found in any "courts or court within this commonwealth, and all judgments of out-"lawry paſſed againſt them and each of them in the ſaid Supreme or any "other Court, and all judgment and judgments of death againſt them and "each of them, awarded upon ſuch out-lawry or out-lawries, and all ex-"ecutions of ſuch judgment and judgments of death againſt them and each "of them, be, and they are hereby declared to be reverſed and made null "and void, by whatſoever names they the ſaid *Levi Doan* and *Abraham* "*Doan*, or either of them, may be therein mentioned and deſcribed; and "that they, the ſaid *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan*, and each of them, ſhall "be entitled to free and impartial trials by jury upon the ſaid indictments "or charges for the original offences by them alledged to be committed, "in the ſame manner, and all proceedings againſt them ſhall be had in the "ſame form, and the effects thereof ſhall be the ſame, as if no proceſs, "proceeding or judgment in out-lawry, or judgment and award of execu-"tion of death, had been iſſued, had or awarded againſt them, or either "of them."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with Council on the caſe of *Abraham Doan* and *Levi Doan,* and to requeſt a reſpite of their execution for ſix days.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to reſume the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made ſome further progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again to-morrow, at three o'clock in the afternoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

On motion,

Reſolved, That Mr. Speaker be directed to iſſue a ſubpœna for the attendance of *Thomas Proctor,* Eſquire, to-morrow, to give teſtimony relating to matters contained in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald.*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 24, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 259 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* were read, praying a further ſum of money may be granted for opening the road from the river *Lehigh* to the river *Suſquehanna,* at the falls of *Neſcopeck.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* relative to the erection of a dam in the river *Swetara* by *George Fry,* read *September* 15th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be ſpecially referred to the conſideration of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The committee appointed yeſterday to confer with Council on the caſe of *Abraham Doan* and *Levi Doan,* and to requeſt a reſpite of their execution for ſix days, made report, that they had had a conference with Council, and recieved for anſwer, that Council do not deem it proper to grant the reſpite requeſted.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker be directed to iſſue ſubpœnas for the attendance of *John Chaloner, Iſrael Iſrael, William Kidd* and *John M'Crea,* to give teſtimony relating to matters contained in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald.*

The report of the committee, to whom was referred the reſolution of Congreſs relative to the organization of the fœderal government, *&c.* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe will during this ſeſſion appoint two Senators by ballot, to take their ſeats as Senators for this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution now adopted for the government of ſuch of the United States as have agreed to or ſhall hereafter adopt the ſame: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the election of two Senators conformably to the foregoing reſolution, and that nomination take place previous to that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Phi-"ladelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate* "*county,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to enforce the "due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this* "*commonwealth,*" be poſtponed.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. G. *Heiſter,* Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to obtain information from the managers of the manufacturing ſociety, with reſpect to the workmanſhip in ſundry ſpecimens performed by *John Hewſon* and *Robert Taylor,* and to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act directing the times, places and manner of hold-*"*ing elections for Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the* "*United States, and of appointing Electors on the part of this ſtate for the* "*choice of a Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſti-*"*tution,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, "*in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place* "*of holding elections in the third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to divide "*Waſhington* county into election diſtricts," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to regu-"late the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds "therein," was read the third time; and in debating the ſame, It was moved by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Carſon,*

To ſtrike out the title of the ſaid bill, and in lieu thereof to inſert the following, *viz.*

" *An Act to alter certain election diſtricts within the counties of* Dauphin *and* " Franklin, *and to eſtabliſh new ones therein.*"

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* " Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Piper,*

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and of Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Allegheny.*

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to reſume the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further propreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again to-morrow, at three o'clock in the aftermoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 25, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Robert Galbreath, James Perry, James Briſon, Jacob Weitzel, Samuel Jones, George Thompſon* and *William Tilton,* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Allegheny.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the Juſtices of the Supreme Court was read, referring to their repreſentation of the hardſhips they have ſuſtained in the payment of their ſalaries in the paper bills of credit, read *February* 27th laſt, and ſtating that the depreciation thereof has continued ever ſince, and that they do not receive more than about two thirds of the ſums of money to them reſpectively engaged in the moſt expreſs and unequivocal words, by as ſacred a contract as can be made by a ſociety with individuals, and entreating the determination of this Houſe in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* "Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to enforce "the due collection and payment of taxes;" and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow, and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auctions and vendues;*" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to reſume the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made a further progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again on *Tueſday* next, in the forenoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 26, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *September 25th*, 1788.

SIR,

COLONEL *Pickering*, in behalf of Captain *William Roſs*, having preferred a claim which Council preſume will merit the attention of your honorable Houſe, it is with no ſmall pleaſure I tranſmit the purport of it, as expreſſed in that gentleman's letter to the Board of the twenty-fourth inſtant.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the incloſed letter was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame letters were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

Petitions from *George Wallace* and *Eli Coulter* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Allegheny.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Tranſcripts of the taxes aſſeſſed upon the inhabitants and taxable property within the counties of *York* and *Northampton,* for the year 1788, were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Dublin* and *Shirley,* in the county of *Huntingdon,* was read, praying *Aughwick* creek may not be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *September* 23d, on the petition of *David Linton,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *David Linton,* report,——

That they have carefully examined the petitioner, and have reaſon to believe the circumſtances ſet forth in his petition of taking *George Sinclair* to be true; and are of opinion the riſque he run in apprehending and ſecuring ſo daring a villain entitles him to ſome reward from his country.

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer in favor of *David Linton,* for his ſervices aforeſaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kreemer* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *March* 19th laſt, on the reſolution to enquire into and examine the mode of tranſacting the public buſineſs at the office of the Comptroller-General, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member in his place, with leave of the Houſe, read and preſented to the Speaker a bill, entituled "*An Act to make the bills of credit of this com-*" *monwealth, emitted by an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the ſixteenth of*" March, Anno Domini *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, receivable*" *in payment of all public taxes,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting* "*part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to "enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this common-"wealth;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Peters*,

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in* "*the caſes therein deſcribed*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to alter and "amend an act, entituled "*An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the un-*"*appropriated lands within this ſtate*," and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the payment of an additional ſum of money* "*to* Gunning Bedford *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal* "*arch in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell," was read the ſecond time; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſem-"bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That upon ſufficient ſecurity "being given by the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell*, for the uſe of the ſtate, to his "Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, or, in his "abſence, to the Vice-Preſident for the time being, to indemnify the ſtate "againſt the ſaid certificates, and on the ſame being duly certified to the "Comptroller-General for the time being, the ſaid Comptroller-General "ſhall and is hereby authoriſed and directed to certify in favor of the ſaid "*Sarah Caldwell*, or her legal repreſentatives, to the State Treaſurer afore-"ſaid, the intereſt accrued and to accrue on the ſaid ſum of *two thouſand* "*five hundred and thirteen pounds twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence*, ſince the laſt "payment of intereſt on the ſaid certificates up to the time the firſt certifi-"cate of intereſt ſhall be made on the ſaid ſum of money, and from the "date of ſuch firſt certificate, yearly and every year, to certify the intereſt "that may thereafter accrue on the ſaid ſum, which ſaid reſpective certifi-"cates of the Comptroller-General for the time being, ſo to be made, of the "intereſt as aforeſaid, ſhall be authority to the State Treaſurer for the time "being to pay the ſame reſpectively to the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell*, or her legal "repreſentatives, and the Treaſurer aforeſaid is hereby enjoined and required "to pay the ſame accordingly."

It was moved by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *G. Heiſter*,

To inſert, after the words "*That upon ſufficient*," the word "*real*."

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the propoſed amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Samuel Foulke*,
2 *Valentine Upp*,
3 *Joſeph Reed*,
4 *David Mitchell*,
5 *Thomas Beale*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *Philip Kreemer*,
10 *Joſeph Sands*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *Peter Ealer*,

YEAS.

15 *John Piper*,
16 *James Barr*,
17 *John M'Dowell*,
18 *Alexander Wright*,
19 *John Flenniken*,
20 *Theophilus Philips*,
21 *John Gilchreeſt*,
22 *James M'Lene*,
23 *James M'Calmont*,
24 *Jacob Reiff*,
25 *Robert Lollar*,
26 *Peter Richards*,
27 *Jacob Miley*,
28 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Robert Ralſton*,
11 *James Moore*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Townſend Whelen*,
15 *Alexander Lowrey*,
16 *Adam Hubley*,

NAYS.

17 *Joſeph Work*,
18 *James Clemſon*,
19 *Jacob Erb*,
20 *John Hopkins*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *William Mitchell*,
23 *Joſeph Lilley*,
24 *John Oliver*,
25 *Jacob Saylor*,
26 *Samuel Maclay*,
27 *John White*,
28 *William Findley*,
29 *James Alliſon*,
30 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
31 *John Carſon*,
32 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was determined in the negative; and the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting a lot of ground therein deſcribed, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the Truſtees of* Dickinſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to divide *Waſhington* county into election diſtricts."

An ACT *to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of holding elections in the third diſtrict in ſaid county of* Northumberland.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 27, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry C. Baker*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Allegheny*; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Samuel Jones*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for rewarding the perſon or perſons concerned in apprehending* George " Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to grant the ſum of* *to Captain* William Roſs, *in* " *conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for the further conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*," be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled " *An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the* " *United States, and of appointing electors on the part of this ſtate for the choice* " *of a Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Monday* next, in the afternoon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter certain election diſtricts within the counties of* Dauphin *and* Franklin, *and to eſtabliſh new ones therein*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, September 29, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September 29th,* 1788.

SIR,

THE encloſed letter from *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, Comptroller-General, recommending an application to Congreſs for a prolongation of the time allowed the Commiſſioner for examining the accounts of this ſtate with the union, dated this day, the Board direct me to tranſmit to you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *March* 12th laſt, from the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* relative to the mode of enforcing the payment of debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of *Robert Leſlie,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land-Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed,*" be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the United States, and of appointing electors, on the part of this ſtate, for the choice of a Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution,*" was read the third time; and in debating the ſame,

On motion,

It was agreed to poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill, in order to take a queſtion on the following propoſition, *viz.*

"Is it the opinion of the Houſe, that the election of repreſentatives to ſerve in the fœderal government ſhould take place on the firſt *Wedneſday* of *January* next."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Calmont,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*

YEAS.
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *James Moore,*

YEAS.

7 *Richard Thomas,*
8 *Samuel Evans,*
9 *Richard Willing,*
10 *Townſend Whelen,*
11 *Adam Hubley,*
12 *Joſeph Lilley,*
13 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *William Lewis,*
2 *William Robinſon,* jun.
3 *Richard Peters,*
4 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
5 *John Chapman,*
6 *Samuel Foulke,*
7 *Valentine Upp,*
8 *Robert Ralſton,*
9 *Alexander Lowrey,*
10 *Joſeph Work,*
11 *James Clemſon,*
12 *Jacob Erb,*
13 *John Hopkins,*
14 *Michael Schmyſer,*
15 *William Mitchell,*
16 *David M'Clellan,*
17 *Joſeph Reed,*
18 *David Mitchell,*
19 *Thomas Beale,*
20 *Thomas Kennedy,*
21 *John Oliver,*
22 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
23 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
24 *Joſeph Sands,*
25 *Philip Kreemer,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28 *Peter Burkhalter,*
29 *Peter Ealer,*
30 *John Piper,*
31 *Jacob Saylor,*
32 *Samuel Maclay,*
33 *John White,*
34 *William Findley,*
35 *James Barr,*
36 *John M'Dowell,*
37 *James Alliſon,*
38 *Alexander Wright,*
39 *John Flenniken,*
40 *Theophilus Philips,*
41 *John Gilchreeſt,*
42 *James M'Lene,*
43 *James M'Calmont,*
44 *Jacob Reiff,*
45 *Robert Lollar,*
46 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
47 *Peter Richards,*
48 *Jacob Miley,*
49 *Robert Clark,*
50 *John Carſon,*
51 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the negative; and the conſideration of the bill being reſumed,

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To amend the title, to read in the words following:

" *An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for repre-*
" *ſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and for appoint-*
" *ing electors, on the part of this ſtate, for chooſing a Preſident and Vice-Preſi-*
" *dent of the United States.*"

Which was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 30, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed yeſterday on the letter from the Comptroller-General made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Senators to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, agreeably to the conſtitution adopted for the government of the ſaid ſtates; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *William Maclay* and *Robert Morris*, Eſquires, were duly elected.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to proceed in the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent on the ſubject of the ſaid charges, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again in the afternoon:

Which was granted.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Eleazer Oſwald* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL of ELEAZER OSWALD, of the city of *Philadelphia*, Printer,

Reſpectfully repreſenteth,

THAT as a profeſſional gentleman of well known abilities, on the floor of your honorable Houſe, has argued, on the ground of oppoſition, points of law, in juſtification of the conduct of the Judges of the Supreme Court, your memorialiſt therefore prays that your honorable Houſe would alſo grant him the benefit of Council learned in the law, to repreſent his caſe at the bar of your honorable Houſe.

And your memorialiſt, &c.

ELEAZER OSWALD.

Philadelphia, September 30, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Shall the prayer of the ſaid memorial be granted?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Clemſon,*
2 *John Hopkins,*
3 *David Mitchell,*

YEAS.

4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *John Oliver,*

YEAS.

7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *Peter Burkhalter*,
9 *John Piper*,
10 *Jacob Saylor*,
11 *John White*,
12 *William Findley*,
13 *James Barr*,
14 *John Irvine*,
15 *John M'Dowell*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,

YEAS.

18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *Theophilus Philips*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,
21 *James M'Lene*,
22 *James M'Calmont*,
23 *Robert Lollar*,
24 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
25 *Peter Richards*,
26 *Jacob Miley*,
27 *Robert Clark*,
28 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Robinſon*, jun.
5 *John Salter*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Willing*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,

NAYS.

18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *Jacob Erb*,
22 *Michael Schmyſer*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Joſeph Reed*,
26 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
27 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
28 *Joſeph Sands*,
29 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
30 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
31 *Peter Ealer*,
32 *Jacob Reiff*,
33 *John Carſon*,
34 *John Paul Schott*.

So it was carried in the negative.

The Houſe then, agreeable to the order of this forenoon, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to proceed in the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in the diſcuſſion of the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported a reſolution, being the reſult of the proceedings of the committee, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, October 1, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lollar*, be a committee to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch of the buſineſs unfiniſhed as they may deem neceſſary to be recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

A motion was made by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Relative to the appointment of Commiſſioners to mark out a road from the river *Suſquehanna* to the higheſt boatable waters of the weſt branch of that river, and from thence to the neareſt good boatable waters on the *Allegeny* river, and from thence by the neareſt and beſt courſes to that tract of land reſerved by the ſtate of *Connecticut*, which lies between the weſtern line of this ſtate and *Lake Erie*, ſo as to croſs, as nearly as the ground will admit, the middle of the ſaid weſtern line of this ſtate.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to* " *an act, entituled* " An Act to alter and amend an act for granting and diſ- " poſing of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Michael Schmyſer*,
2 *William Mitchell*,
3 *David M'Clellan*,
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Thomas Beale*,
7 *Thomas Kennedy*,
8 *John Oliver*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *Philip Kreemer*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *John Piper*,
15 *Jacob Saylor*,
16 *Samuel Maclay*,
17 *John White*,

YEAS.

18 *William Findley*,
19 *John M'Dowell*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *James M'Lene*,
26 *James M'Calmont*,
27 *Robert Lollar*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Peter Richards*,
30 *Jacob Miley*,
31 *Robert Clark*,
32 *John Carſon*,
33 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Robinſon*, jun.
5 *George Logan*,
6 *Richard Peters*,
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Samuel Foulke*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,

NAYS.

11 *Robert Ralſton*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *Samuel Evans*,
15 *Richard Willing*,
16 *Townſend Whelen*,
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Adam Hubley*,
19 *Joſeph Work*,
20 *James Clemſon*,

NAYS.

21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*

NAYS.

24 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled, *An Act to make the bills of credit of this commonwealth,* “ *emitted by an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the ſixteenth of* March, Anno “ Domini *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, receivable in payment of* “ *all public taxes,*” was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to regulate auctions and vendues;*” and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, October 2, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *George Fowler* and *Edward Butler* was read, together with petitions from 200 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* praying that *Chartier*'s creek may not be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* in the following words, *viz.*

“ Whereas the ſevere exaction of the heavy fines incurred under former “ ſyſtems of militia laws is a great ſource of vexation and oppreſſion to the “ poor and neceſſitous, without any adequate improvement of the finances of “ the ſtate:

“ *Reſolved,* That the conſideration of a general exoneration of the fines “ which have been ſo incurred be recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of “ Aſſembly.”

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To ſtrike out the words, “ *a general,*” in the foregoing reſolution, and, in lieu thereof, to inſert the word “ *an.*”

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*”—

It was carried in the affirmative, and the motion, as amended, adopted by the Houſe.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the petitions of *James Rumſey, John Fitch* and *Henry Voigt,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petition of *Elizabeth Kutz* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means having had referred to them the requiſitions of Congreſs for the preſent year, an act of the 11th *June* reſpecting penſioners, and a reſolution of this Houſe, directing them to "report the "beſt and ſpeedieſt mode of procuring and paying to the order of Council "the ſum of *nine hundred and fifty pounds*, to diſcharge the expence which "may ariſe in effecting a purchaſe of the lands on *Lake Erie* from the Indians,"

Report, That the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their requiſitions for the preſent year, require from the ſtates reſpectively the payment of their arrears on the exiſting ſpecie requiſitions, beſides the ſum of one million ſix hundred and eighty-ſix thouſand five hundred and forty-one dollars and twelve-ninetieths in indents, in which requſiition the quota of *Pennſylvania* is ſtated to be (in indents) two hundred and thirty thouſand ſix hundred and ninety-eight dollars and eighteen ninetieths, for one year's intereſt of the domeſtic debt of the United States.

Upon this the committee have to remark, that as this ſtate has paid a conſiderable ſum beyond her quota of the ſpecie requiſitions to the end of the year 1786, and appears to be a creditor of the United States for a ſum beyond her quota of the aggregate debt, it would be improper to make any further ſpecie payments on that account.

That as the ſtate has not yet authoriſed the payment of indents required by the requiſitions of the laſt and preſent year, it is proper that ſo much of the ſaid requiſitions, as reſpects the payment of this ſtate's quota of indents, ought to be adopted, and a law paſſed for that purpoſe.

The act of Congreſs of the 8th *June* 1788, among other things, directs, that no "perſon ſhall be entitled to a penſion, as an invalid, who ſhall "not before the 11th day of *December* next make application therefor, and "produce the requiſite certificates and evidence to entitle them thereto."

The committee find, that the ſum propoſed in the reſolution of this Houſe to be paid to the order of Council being for a purpoſe highly beneficial to the ſtate, immediate meaſures ſhould be taken to authoriſe the payment thereof.

In conformity with all which the committee offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the requiſitions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the years 1787 and 1788, ſo far as reſpects the payment of this ſtate's quota of indents, for her proportion of the intereſt on the domeſtic debt, be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly.

The committee find, that the act of Aſſembly of this ſtate authoriſes the Judges of the Supreme Court to receive applications for penſions till the 10th day of *March* next, and are of opinion that the Houſe ſhould take order to prevent the granting any penſions ſubſequent to the period preſcribed by the act of Congreſs.

Reſolved, That the Judges of the Supreme Court be furniſhed with a copy of the act of Congreſs of the 11th day of *June* laſt, reſpecting penſioners, and that it be recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authorſing the State Treaſurer to pay to the order of the Supreme Executive Council, a ſum not exceeding *one thouſand two hundred pounds*, out of the duties and impoſts ariſing on goods, wares and merchandize, imported into this ſtate under the acts of 20th *September* 1785, and 15th *March* 1787, for defraying the expence of purchaſing the lands on *Lake Erie* from the Indians.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the third reſolution contained in the foregoing report.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the better ſecuring the public creditors of this ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the conſideration of the report on the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald,* and that it be the order for the day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for rewarding the perſon or perſons concerned* "*in apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant the ſum of* *to* "*Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious* "*ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time: Whereupon

A petition from divers *German* members of the Roman Catholic ſociety worſhipping at the church of St. *Mary*'s was read, remonſtrating againſt the ſaid bill, without a previous diſcuſſion of certain amendments to ſaid bill, ſet forth in the petition, and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law. It was then,

On motion,

Ordered, That the conſideration of the bill be poſtponed, and that the ſaid petition be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the payment of an additional ſum of money* "*to* Gunning Bedford, *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal* "*arch in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by robberies;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the payment of* "*taxes;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of *John Franklin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to authorize the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer* "*for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing lands on* Lake Erie "*of the Indians*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*make the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by an act of General* "*Aſſembly paſſed the ſixteenth day of* March, Anno Domini *one thouſand ſeven* "*hundred and eighty-five, receivable in payment of all public taxes*."

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the ſaid bills of credit, "emitted in purſuance of the act of Aſſembly aforeſaid, ſhall be received "in payment of all and every the debts, duties, taxes and demands, which "ſhall be aſſeſſed and laid, or which ſhall become due or payable, either to "the Treaſurer of the State or to any county Treaſurer or Collector, or to "the Overſeers of the Poor of the city of *Philadelphia*, or of any borough "or townſhip in this ſtate, or to the Wardens of the city of *Philadelphia*, "or to the Street-commiſſioners of the ſame city, or to any other public "officer or officers whatſoever, for or on the account of this ſtate, or of "any county, or of the city of *Philadelphia*, or any borough or townſhip "within this ſtate, according to the value which the ſaid bills on the face of "them purport to be of, reckoning *ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence* to be equal "to one *Spaniſh* ſilver milled dollar."

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Piper*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Beale*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *John Oliver*,
5 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
6 *Peter Burkhalter*,
7 *John Piper*,
8 *William Findley*,
9 *John M'Dowell*,
10 *James Alliſon*,

YEAS.

11 *John Flenniken*,
12 *Theophilus Philips*,
13 *John Gilchreeſt*,
14 *James M'Lene*,
15 *James M'Calmont*,
16 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *Robert Clark*,
19 *John Carſon*,
20 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,

NAYS.

3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Will*,

NAYS.

5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,

NAYS.

22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *John Hopkins*,
24 *Michael Schmyſer*,
25 *William Mitchell*,
26 *David M'Clellan*,
27 *Joſeph Reed*,
28 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
29 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
30 *Joſeph Sands*,
31 *Philip Kreemer*,
32 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
33 *Peter Ealer*,
34 *Jacob Saylor*,
35 *John White*,
36 *Jacob Reiff*,
37 *Robert Lollar*,
38 *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the river *Coneſtogoe*, in the county of *Lancaſter*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for granting to* John Hewſon *and* Robert Taylor, *callicoe printers and bleachers, the ſum of* pounds, *as an encouragement to them to carry on in as extenſive a manner as poſſible ſaid branches of buſineſs*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery*;" and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time; and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain Commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the ninth*

" *day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-one, were appointed to* " *ſettle the accounts of certain other Commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſ-* " *ſembly, paſſed the twentieth day of* September, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and* " *ſixty-five, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the Managers of a lottery* " *which had been ſet up and drawn, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* " Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and* " *to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to* " *recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for* " *carding cotton*;" and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, October 3, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from a number of the Juſtices of the Peace of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Common-wealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL of the ſubſcribers, JUSTICES of the PEACE in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia,*

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT your memorialiſts have obſerved, by the debates of the General Aſſembly of the 19th ultimo, as publiſhed by *Thomas Lloyd,* that certain charges are exhibited againſt the magiſtrates by *William Lewis* and *George Clymer,* Eſquires, members of your honorable Houſe:

That we are charged, generally, by thoſe members, as being mean, rapacious wretches, purſuing every infamous conduct that can be deviſed, to prey upon our neighbours:

That under ſuch charges, which we deem ungenerous and unmerited, we feel ourſelves grievouſly wounded in our reputations, not only as magiſtrates, but as men and citizens:

We do, each for himſelf, deny the accuſation; and therefore, if any magiſtrate has been guilty of ſuch unworthy conduct as thoſe members have repreſented, the laws of our country are ſufficient, and to thoſe laws we are amenable.

Your memorialiſts are confident that your honorable Houſe will not be impreſſed with ſentiments ſo unfavourable to the magiſtracy, by ſuch general and unſupported aſſertions.

PLUNKET FLEESON,
WILLIAM RUSH,
ISAAC HOWELL,
JOSEPH WHARTON,
WILLIAM POLLARD,
WILLIAM CRAIG,
ALEXANDER TOD,
ROBERT M'KNIGHT,
JACOB WEAVER,
WILLIAM COATS,
SAMUEL WHARTON,
JONATHAN PENROSE.

Philadelphia, 2d October, 1788.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *Robert Morris* and *William Maclay*, Eſquires, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

WE have this day been honored with the receipt of your letters, announcing the election which the General Aſſembly have been pleaſed to make of us as Senators, to ſerve this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States; and indicating, that it would be agreeable to have our acceptance of the appointment acknowledged in a letter to the Speaker.

Senſible as we are of the diſtinguiſhed confidence repoſed in the perſons to whom this important truſt is committed, and feeling, as we ought, the honor which the Houſe has conferred on us by that high degree of confidence, we do not heſitate to accept of the appointment. Permit us at the ſame time to declare, that we do it in the hope of being ſerviceable to our country. The high ſtation to which we are choſen will afford us the opportunities of meriting the approbation of the General Aſſembly, and of all our fellow-citizens. It ſhall be our ſtudy to avail ourſelves of thoſe opportunities, by a faithful diſcharge of our duty.

We have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient and humble ſervants,

ROBERT MORRIS,
WILLIAM MACLAY.

To the Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly of Pennſylvania.

A petition from *Chriſtian Holland*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of *Benjamin Moore*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schott*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

" Whereas the various proviſions neceſſary to the prudent and equitable " ſettlement of the conteſted *Pennſylvania* and *Connecticut* claims to lands " within the county of *Luzerne* have demanded greater conſideration than this " Houſe have had it in their power to beſtow, yet, highly ſenſible of the " importance to the ſtate of a ſpeedy termination of thoſe diſputes:

" *Reſolved*, That this ſubject be recommended to the early and ſerious con" ſideration of the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly."

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee of the whole, on the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald*, read *September* 30th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the charges exhibited by Colonel *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, and the teſtimony given in ſupport of them, are not a ſufficient ground of impeachment.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved,* That this Houſe having in a committee of the whole gone into " a full examination of the charges exhibited by *Eleazer Oſwald,* of arbitrary " and oppreſſive proceedings in the Juſtices of the Supreme Court againſt the " ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald,* are of opinion that the charges are unſupported by " the teſtimony adduced, and, conſequently, that there is no juſt cauſe for " impeaching the ſaid Juſtices."

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the reſolution moved by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Peters,* in order to ſubſtitute the following, *viz.*

" Whereas the conſtitution of this commonwealth hath expreſly ſecured " to every citizen the right of trial by jury in criminal proſecutions; there- " fore uſages, however ancient, or from whatever quarter they may have been " introduced, cannot ſuperſede this poſitive right.

" Although the courts of juſtice, for their own defence and the protec- " tion of the courſe of juſtice, muſt neceſſarily poſſeſs the power of com- " pelling obedience to their authority, as well as peace, order and decency " in their preſence, yet this is no more than that right of repelling force by " force, neceſſary for the exiſtence and uſefulneſs of the courts of juſtice, " which is analogous to that right of ſelf-defence that every man naturally " enjoys; yet, nevertheleſs, ſuch freedom of writing or ſpeaking, as is only " calculated to diſparage the perſons of the judges, or to influence the cauſes " depending before the courts, and not read or uttered in the preſence of the " ſaid courts, although puniſhable by indictment, ought not to be turned " into contempts, by conſtruction or implication, at the diſcretion of the " judges: Therefore

" *Reſolved,* That the proceedings of the Supreme Court againſt Colonel " *Eleazer Oſwald,* in puniſhing him by fine and impriſonment at their diſcre- " tion for a conſtructive or implied contempt, not committed in the preſence " of the court, nor againſt any officer or order thereof, but for writing and " publiſhing improperly, or indecently, reſpecting a cauſe depending before " the Supreme Court, and reſpecting ſome of the Judges of ſaid court, was " an unconſtitutional exerciſe of judicial power, and ſets an alarming prece- " dent, of the moſt dangerous conſequence to the citizens of this common- " wealth.

" And whereas, though the conſtitution of this commonwealth declares " the printing preſſes be open for the examination of every department of " government, yet the legiſlature hath hitherto neglected to define the nature " of contempts, or direct the nature or extent of their puniſhment, conſe- " quently the juſtices have been left to act under the influence of arbitrary and " illegal uſages: Therefore

" *Reſolved,* That it be ſpecially recommended to the enſuing General Aſ- " ſembly to define the nature and extent of contempts, and direct their pu- " niſhments."

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Findley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *John Oliver,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *William Findley,*
10 *James Barr,*
11 *John Irvine,*

YEAS.

12 *John M‘Dowell,*
13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Flenniken,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *John Gilchreeſt,*
18 *James M‘Lene,*
19 *James M‘Calmont,*
20 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
21 *Jacob Miley,*
22 *Robert Clark.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*

NAYS.

19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *David M‘Clellan,*
25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29 *Peter Burkhalter,*
30 *Peter Ealer,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *Robert Lollar,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *John Paul Schott,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And the reſolution propoſed by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Peters* recurring,

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Peters,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*

YEAS.

8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*

YEAS.

15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *David M'Clellan,*

YEAS.

25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29 *Peter Burkhalter,*
30 *Peter Ealer,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon,*
33 *John Paul Schott,*
34 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *John Oliver,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *William Findley,*
10 *James Barr,*
11 *John Irvine,*
12 *John M'Dowell,*

NAYS.

13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Flenniken,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *John Gilchreeſt,*
18 *James M'Lene,*
19 *James M'Calmont,*
20 *Robert Lollar,*
21 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
22 *Jacob Miley,*
23 *Robert Clark.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to* "*draw on the State Treaſurer for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of* "*purchaſing of the Indians lands on* Lake Erie," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant the ſum of* one hundred and eighty-"ſeven pounds ten ſhillings *to Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his* "*ſervices to this commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for rewarding the perſon or perſons concerned* "*in apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A tranſcript of the taxes aſſeſſed on the inhabitants and taxable property within the county of *Weſtmoreland,* for the year 1788, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to alter and amend " an act, entituled " *An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated* " *lands within this ſtate.*"

An ACT *for the payment of an additional ſum of money to* Gunning Bedford *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal arch in the city of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing of the Indians lands on* Lake Erie.

An ACT *to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton.*

An ACT *to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the payment of taxes.*

An ACT *in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery.*

An ACT *to appoint commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the 9th day of* March, 1771, *were appointed to ſettle the accounts of certain other commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the 20th day of* September, 1765, *were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery which had been ſet up and drawn, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge.*

An ACT *for veſting a lot of ground, therein deſcribed, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the Truſtees of* Dickenſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland.

An ACT *to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation of St.* James, *at* Perkiomen, *in the townſhip of* New-Providence, *and the county of* Montgomery.

The member appointed to collect the fines from the members for non-attendance, preſented to the chair a receipt from the Treaſurer of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for the ſum of *fourteen pounds ten ſhillings,* being the amount of fines by him collected.

The report on the petition of *James Rumſey* and others, read *October* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the conſideration of the ſucceeding Houſe.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *October* 4, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *October* 1ſt, to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch of the buſineſs unfiniſhed as they may deem neceſſary to be recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to report on the unfiniſhed buſineſs, offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county*;"

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth*;"

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land-Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed*;"

The report of the committee on the memorial of the Reverend Dr. *William Smith*;

The report on the eſtabliſhment of an aſſay-office;

The report on the petition of *Evan Owen*;

The petition of *Frances Budden*;

The petition of *John M'Calmont*;

The petitions from the inhabitants of *Huntingdon* county, reſpecting the county lines;

The petitions for and againſt declaring *Aughwick* and *Standing-Stone* creeks public highways; be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report——

That there is due to *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* for ſundry printing work done for the General Aſſembly, from *March* 28th, 1788, to *October* 3d enſuing, *forty-one pounds eleven ſhillings.*

To *Thomas Bradford,* for printing the laws to this day, *one hundred and ninety-ſeven pounds one ſhilling and nine-pence.*

To *Melchior Steiner,* for printing in *German* 1000 copies of the reſolves reſpecting the calling of the State Convention, *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *Hall* and *Sellers,* for printing the minutes of the firſt and ſecond ſeſſions of the Twelfth General Aſſembly, *two hundred and fifty-three pounds twelve ſhillings.*

To *Thomas Lloyd,* for four volumes of the debates of the General Aſſembly, *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *William Spottſwood,* for ſerving the General Aſſembly with ſix ſetts of the *Pennſylvania Herald,* from 30th *September,* 1787, to 30th *January,* 1788, four months, *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *William Woodhouſe,* for ſtationary, *&c.* delivered for the uſe of the General Aſſembly, from *June* 1ſt, 1787, to *October* 3d, 1788, *forty-five pounds one ſhilling and ſeven-pence halfpenny.*

To *Michael Billmeyer,* for printing the bills for conſideration and the minutes, in the *German* language, of the ſecond ſeſſion of the Twelfth General Aſſembly, *one hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings and eight-pence.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* in full of their account, for *forty-one pounds eleven ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Bradford*, in full of his account, for *one hundred and ninety-ſeven pounds one ſhilling and nine-pence.*

In favor of *Melchior Steiner*, in full of his account, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, in full of their account, for *two hundred and fifty-three pounds twelve ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Lloyd*, in full of his account, for *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *William Spottſwood*, in full of his account, for *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *William Woodhouſe*, in full of his account, for *forty-five pounds one ſhilling and ſeven-pence half-penny.*

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, in full of his account, for *one hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings and eight-pence.*

The committee to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, complaining of the diviſion line between the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Dauphin* run by three of the commiſſioners appointed, *viz.* *Thomas Clark*, *Joſhua Elder* and *John Clendenen*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That there is not ſufficient cauſe ſhewn for invalidating the act of the three commiſſioners, eſtabliſhing the diviſion line run between the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Dauphin*.

The report of the committee, read *September* 27th laſt, on the memorial of Meſſieurs *Turnbull*, *Marmie* and Company, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Meſſieurs *Turnbull*, *Marmie* and Company, and the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame, tranſmitted by the Executive Council, report——

That enquiring into the circumſtances of this caſe, they find the memorialiſts had contracted with the Board of Treaſury of the United States for the ſupply of the troops on the weſtern frontiers, and in *March* 1787 received, in part payment of the ſupplies, two warrants upon the Treaſurer of the United States, which were exchanged for orders on the Treaſurer of *Pennſylvania*, one for five, the other for three thouſand dollars ſpecie; that in lieu of the firſt named warrant, they accepted from the ſaid Treaſurer his orders on ſeveral County Treaſurers, part of which orders ſtill remain unſatisfied, and of the part received, ſome of it was in paper in a depreciated ſtate, and ſome in ſpecie, but for which the memorialiſts were obliged to allow a diſcount:

That the other warrant for three thouſand dollars, though preſented ſo long ago as the month of *June*, 1787, at which time the Treaſurer engaged for the payment, the ſtate having credit for the amount with the United States, is yet altogether unſatisfied; and that the memorialiſts, having given up their original order on the Treaſurer of the United States for this order on the Treaſurer of *Pennſylvania*, they are left without remedy againſt the United States.

The committee are fully ſenſible of the great hardſhip or injuſtice done to the memorialſtis, as well on account of the loſs ariſing from the payments made them in depreciated paper in the one caſe, as in the total failure of payment in the other, and ſincerely wiſh they could point out to the Houſe any mode of relief; but conſidering this caſe as coming within the executive department of government, they cannot recommend any legiſlative interference therein, other than the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be furniſhed with a copy of this report.

The report of the committee, read *September* 30th laſt, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, together with the letter from the Comptroller-General, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to apply to the Congreſs of the United States, to continue the preſent commiſſioner for ſettling the accounts of this ſtate with the United States for ſix months beyond the time, at which his preſent appointment ſhall expire.

A motion was made by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*, as follows, *viz.*

" Whereas the making a good central road from *Philadelphia* to the weſt-
" ern extremity of this ſtate would greatly promote, not only the ſale of
" public lands, but alſo the population, agriculture and commerce of this
" commonwealth, as well as facilitate the defence thereof, and alſo contri-
" bute greatly to the accommodation of the United States:

" *Reſolved*, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they hereby are
" authoriſed to appoint Commiſſioners, to examine
" and mark out the neareſt and beſt track for a road from ,
" on the *Suſquehanna* river, to the higheſt ſufficient boatable waters of the
" weſt branch of that river, and from thence to the neareſt good boatable
" waters of the *Allegheny* river, and from thence by the neareſt and beſt
" courſes to that tract of land reſerved by the ſtate of *Connecticut*, which
" lies betwixt the weſtern line of this ſtate and *Lake Erie*, ſo as to croſs, as
" nearly as the ground will admit, the middle of the ſaid weſtern line of
" this ſtate.

" *Reſolved*, That the Commiſſioners ſo appointed ſhall receive
" *ſhillings* per day, beſides the expence of Pilots, to be paid out of the ſur-
" pluſage of the fees received in the land-office, which remains after paying
" the ſalaries of the Land-Officers."

Ordered, That it be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report——

That they have received of *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of *four thouſand nine hundred and twenty-four pounds ſeven ſhillings and three-pence*, in bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by act of Aſſembly paſſed *March* 16th, 1785, which he hath received of the Truſtees of the Loan-Office, *viz.*

800	bills of	*twenty ſhillings* each - -	£ 800	0	0
1219	ditto	*fifteen ſhillings* each - - -	914	5	0
2700	ditto	*ten ſhillings* each - - -	1350	0	0
3200	ditto	*five ſhillings* each - - -	800	0	0
2000	ditto	*two ſhillings and ſix-pence* each -	250	0	0
4401	ditto	*one ſhilling and ſix-pence* each - -	330	1	6
10001	ditto	*nine-pence* each - - -	375	0	9
8400	ditto	*three-pence* each - - -	105	0	0
		Making in the whole, - -	£ 4924	7	3

And they have alſo received the ſum of three thouſand five hundred and ninety-two dollars and three fourths of a dollar in treaſury notes, and *three hundred and fifty-ſeven pounds* in bills of credit, commonly called ſtate iſland money; all of which ſeveral ſums they have examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.

The report of the committee, read *October* 2d, on the petition of *John Franklin*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to draw on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Clerk, and *Jacob Shallus*, Aſſiſtant Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for the ſum of *fifty pounds* each, as a full compenſation for their extra ſervices.

In favor of *James Martin* and *Joſeph Fry*, for *twenty pounds* each, as a full compenſation for their extra ſervices as Serjeant-at-Arms and Door-keeper to the General Aſſembly.

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

That the letters from the Preſidents of the Conventions of the ſtates of *Maſſachuſetts*, *New-York* and *Virginia*, incloſing the ratifications of the fœderal conſtitution by the ſaid ſtates, with the amendments thereto by them propoſed, and the letter from the Preſident of the Convention of the ſtate of *North-Carolina*, incloſing the proceedings of the ſaid Convention, be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid motion?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Peters*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Mitchell*,
2 *Joſeph Reed*,
3 *David Mitchell*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *John Oliver*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Joſeph Sands*,
9 *Philip Kreemer*,
10 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
11 *Peter Burkhalter*,
12 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

13 *William Findley*,
14 *James Barr*,
15 *John M'Dowell*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *John Flenniken*,
18 *Theophilus Philips*,
19 *John Gilchreeſt*,
20 *James M'Lene*,
21 *James M'Calmont*,
22 *Robert Lollar*,
23 *Jacob Miley*,
24 *Robert Clark*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Will*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,

NAYS.

10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Willing*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,

NAYS.

19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *James Clemſon,*
22 *Jacob Erb,*
23 *John Hopkins,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *David M‘Clellan,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
28 *Peter Trexler,* jun.

NAYS.

29 *Peter Ealer,*
30 *Jacob Saylor,*
31 *Samuel Maclay,*
32 *John White,*
33 *John Irvine,*
34 *Jacob Reiff,*
35 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
36 *John Carſon,*
37 *John Paul Schott,*
38 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled,* " An Act for regulating the fiſheries in the river *Coneſtogoe,* in the county of *Lancaſter,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, *in the city of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth.

An ACT *for the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by robberies.*

An ACT *for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell.

An ACT *for rewarding the perſons concerned in the apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry.*

An ACT *to grant the ſum of* one hundred and eighty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings *to Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the fiſheries in the river *Coneſtogoe,* in the county of *Lancaſter.*"

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark,* for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned."

An ACT *directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and for appointing Electors, on the part of this ſtate, for chuſing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.*

On motion,

Reſolved, That one thouſand copies of the laſt mentioned act be printed, and tranſmitted to the Prothonotaries of the reſpective counties of this commonwealth, for the information of the citizens thereof.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws, reported that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth.*

II. *An* ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary's *church, in the city of* Philadelphia.

III. *An* ACT *to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of the ſtate, and the public arms and ſtores.*

IV. *An* ACT *for the relief of the ſuffering inhabitants of the townſhips of* Wayne *and* Derry, *in the county of* Cumberland.

V. *An* ACT *to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral impoſt laws of this ſtate, as confines the allowing of draw-backs on goods exported to the original importers thereof, and obliges the exporter to produce certificates of the landing of ſuch goods.*

VI. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes.*

VII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter.

VIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to divide *Waſhington* county into election diſtricts."

IX. *An* ACT *for erecting certain parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county.*

X. *An* ACT *to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of holding elections in the third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland.

XI. *An* ACT *to alter certain election diſtricts within the counties of* Dauphin *and* Franklin, *and to eſtabliſh new ones therein.*

XII. *An* ACT *for veſting a lot of ground, herein deſcribed, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the Truſtees of* Dickinſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland.

XIII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation of St.* James, *at* Perkiomen, *in the townſhip of* New-Providence, *and county of* Montgomery.

XIV. *An* ACT *to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing of the Indians lands on* Lake Erie.

XV. *An* ACT *to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XVI. *An* ACT *directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and for appointing Electors, on the part of this ſtate, for chuſing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.*

XVII. *An* ACT *in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery.*

XVIII. *An* ACT *to appoint commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the ninth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-one, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of certain other commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the twentieth day of* September, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery which had been ſet up and drawn, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge.*

XIX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to alter and " amend an act, entituled " *An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unap-* " *propriated lands within this ſtate.*"

XX. *An* ACT *to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton.*

XXI. *An* ACT *to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the payment of taxes.*

XXII. *An* ACT *for the payment of an additional ſum of money to* Gunning Bedford *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal arch in the city of* Philadelphia.

XXIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to enforce " the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth."

XXIV. *An* ACT *for the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by robberies.*

XXV. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An " Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the " diſtrict of *Southwark,* for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out " therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets " and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other " uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned."

XXVI. *An* ACT *for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell.

XXVII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, *in the city of* Philadelphia.

XXVIII. *An* ACT *for rewarding the perſons concerned in apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry.*

XXIX. *An* ACT *to grant the ſum of* one hundred and eighty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings *to Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth.*

XXX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the river *Coneſtogoe.*

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Reſolved, unanimouſly, That the thanks of this Houſe be preſented to the Honorable Speaker, for his aſſiduous, able and impartial attention to the duties of his ſtation.

The Houſe then roſe *ſine die.*

PETER Z. LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

Philadelphia: Printed by HALL & SELLERS.

Sitgreaves

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE THIRTEENTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on MONDAY, the Twenty-
ſeventh Day of OCTOBER, in the Year of our LORD One
Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight.

PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS, IN MARKET-STREET.

M,DCC,LXXXVIII.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Thirteenth GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Monday, October 27, 1788. P. M.

THIS being the day appointed by the conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen, elected as repreſentatives to ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 28, 1788. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, October 29, 1788. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Thurſday, October 30, 1788. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to morrow, P. M.

Friday, October 31, 1788. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 1, 1788. A. M.

A number of gentlemen ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum met; and,

On motion,

The returns of the elections held in the city of *Philadelphia*, and in the counties of *Philadelphia, Bucks, Cheſter, Lancaſter, York, Cumberland, Berks, Northampton, Bedford, Northumberland, Weſtmoreland, Waſhington, Franklin, Montgomery, Dauphin* and *Huntingdon*, were read, by which it appeared that the following gentlemen were returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid city and counties reſpectively, for the enſuing year, *viz.*

For the city of PHILADELPHIA.
George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
Lawrence Sickle,
William Lewis.

For the county of PHILADELPHIA.
Richard Peters,
William M‘Pherſon,
John Salter,
George Logan,
William Robinſon, jun.

For the county of BUCKS.
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Valentine Upp,
Samuel Foulke.

For the county of CHESTER.
Richard Thomas,
James Moore,
Mark Wilcox,
John M‘Dowell,
Caleb James,
Richard Downing, jun.

For the county of LANCASTER.
Alexander Lowrey,
James Clemſon,
John Hopkins,
James Cunningham,
Jacob Erb,
Henry Dering.

For the county of YORK.
David M‘Clellan,
Thomas Clingan,
Thomas Lilley,
Michael Schmyſer,
Henry Tyſon,
Joſeph Reed.

For the county of CUMBERLAND.
David Mitchell,
Thomas Kennedy,
Thomas Beale,
Jonathan Hoge.

For the county of BERKS.
Joſeph Heiſter,
Gabriel Heiſter,
Joſeph Sands,
Daniel Broadhead,
John Ludwig.

For the county of NORTHAMPTON.
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Ealer,
Conrad Ihrie, jun.
Stephen Balliot.

For the county of BEDFORD.
Jacob Saylor,
John Piper.

For the county of NORTHUMB^{D}.
Samuel Maclay,
John White.

For the county of WESTMORELAND.
James Barr,
John Irvine,
William Todd.

For the county of WASHINGTON.
James Marſhall,
James Alliſon,
John Nevil,
Alexander Wright.

For the county of FRANKLIN.
James M'Lene,
James Johnſon.

For the county of MONTGOMERY.
Robert Lollar,
Jacob Reiff,
Peter Richards,
Jonathan Roberts.

For the county of DAUPHIN.
Jacob Miley,
Adam Orth,
John Carſon.

For the county of HUNTINGDON.
Hugh Daviſon.

Note. No returns have been received from the counties of *Fayette* and *Luzerne.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
Lawrence Sickle,
William Lewis,
Richard Peters,
William M'Pherſon,
John Salter,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Valentine Upp,
Samuel Foulke,
Richard Thomas,
James Moore,
Mark Wilcox,
John M'Dowell,
Caleb James,
Richard Downing, jun.
James Clemſon,
John Hopkins,
James Cunningham,
Thomas Lilley,
Henry Tyſon,
Joſeph Reed,
David Mitchell,
Thomas Kennedy,
Jonathan Hoge,
Gabriel Heiſter,
Joſeph Sands,
Daniel Broadhead,
John Ludwig,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Ealer,
Conrad Ihrie, jun.
Stephen Balliot,
John Piper,
John White,
James Barr,
William Todd,
John Nevil,
Alexander Wright,
James M'Lene,
James Johnſon,
Robert Lollar,
Jacob Reiff,
Peter Richards,
Jonathan Roberts,
Jacob Miley,
Adam Orth,
Hugh Daviſon.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *RICHARD PETERS,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

Mr. Speaker, being placed in the chair, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution.

The members preſent were then ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Clerk and Aſſiſtant-Clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected Clerk, and *JACOB SHALLUS,* Eſquire, elected Aſſiſtant-Clerk, who appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified to the faithful execution of their reſpective offices.

A petition from *Joſeph Fry* was read, praying to be appointed Door-keeper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *James Martin, Nicholas Weaver* and *Joſeph Price* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Serjeant at Arms.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *James Martin* was duly elected Serjeant at Arms, and *Joſeph Fry* Door-keeper; and they were ſeverally qualified to the faithful performance of their reſpective duties.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the late Houſe of Aſſembly be adopted for the government of the preſent Houſe, until a ſett of rules and regulations ſhall be brought forward, and agreed to.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

That the members of this Houſe ſeverally take and ſubſcribe the following oath or affirmation, *viz.*

" You do ſwear (or affirm) that you will ſupport the conſtitution of the " United States, as propoſed by a Convention of the ſaid ſtates at *Philadelphia,* on the ſeventeenth day of *September,* in the year of our Lord one " thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, and as the ſame has ſince been " ratified in the manner therein preſcribed."

It was then moved by Mr. *Wright,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid motion;

Which was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, November 3, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of a repreſentative to ſerve in Aſſembly for the county of *Luzerne* was read, by which it appeared that *Obadiah Gore,* Eſquire, was duly returned as repreſentative for ſaid county for the enſuing year.

Jacob Erb, Eſq; elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter,* and *Obadiah Gore,* Eſq; elected a repreſentative for the county of *Luzerne,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, ſetting forth, that the election of repreſentatives in the Congreſs of the United States is directed to be holden on the ſecond day of the court to be held for the ſaid county; that by the act for regulating the general elections within this commonwealth it is provided, that no freeman ſhall be entitled to vote at any other place than the diſtrict in which ſuch perſon inhabits, whereby a great number of the freemen, who are obliged to attend the ſaid court, will be precluded from voting, unleſs permitted to vote at the court-houſe in ſaid county; and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph R. Robinſon,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Clemſon,* Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Broadhead,* Mr. *Balliot,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Johnſton,* Mr. *Lollar,* Mr. *Orth,* Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Daviſon* be a committee, to deviſe ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

Reſolved, That Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Broadhead,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee of accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be and are hereby empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Broadhead,* Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee to examine the Laws and Minutes of the Houſe, prepare them for publication, and correct them at the preſs.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to inſpect the Minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Richards* be appointed to collect the fines that may be incurred, by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which are or may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

The committee appointed this forenoon, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council were preparing a meſſage, which would be ready to be laid before the Houſe this day.

On motion,

Reſolved, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the choice of Printers, to publiſh the Laws and Journals of this Houſe; and that notice of this order be inſerted in one of the daily news-papers to be printed in the city of *Philadelphia* to-morrow.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Wilcox,* Mr. *Hopkins,* Mr. *Tyſon,* Mr. *Mitchell,* Mr. *Sands,* Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Barr,* Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Roberts,* Mr. *Orth,* Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Daviſon* be a committee, to whom all the claims of individuals againſt this ſtate be referred.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Foulke,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee to reviſe the criminal laws of this ſtate, and to report ſuch alterations therein as they may deem neceſſary.

The Secretary of Council attending at the door, was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

A MES-

A MESSAGE *from the* VICE-PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have appointed *Richard Butler* and *John Gibſon*, Eſquires, to carry into effect, as far as circumſtances will permit, the reſolution of the General Aſſembly of the 13th of *September* laſt, which authoriſes Council to purchaſe the tract of country lying between the northern boundary of this ſtate and *Lake Erie*.

Such parts of the ſurplus donation lands as have not been ſurveyed ſhould, in the opinion of Council, be freed from the appropriation. We learn that ſome ſettlements are already forming, and others are in contemplation, on thoſe lands, which make it neceſſary ſome ſteps ſhould be taken to prevent future embarraſſments to government.

The boundary lines of the ſtate being compleated, it will be neceſſary to confirm them by law.

We tranſmit herewith a letter from the Board of Treaſury of the United States of the 19th of *September*, reſpecting penſioners; a copy of inſtructions given by Council to the Commiſſioners appointed to treat with *Indians*; and a letter from Captain *Hart*, which merits the attention of the legiſlature.

DAVID REDICK.

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, November 3d, 1788.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmited were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 4, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Jacob Saylor, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*, *John Irwin*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, and *John Carſon*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Dauphin*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A letter from *Alexander Lowrey*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Glenn* was read, ſetting forth, that in order to ſupply the army of the United States he ſold to the contractors property to a conſiderable amount; that, inſtead of receiving payment therefor, his accounts were liquidated, and certificates granted in lieu thereof; that by reaſon of his not receiving payment of the amount of his account, he was compelled to borrow ſeveral ſums of money for the ſupport of himſelf and family, for which ſums of money his eſtate has been taken in execution and advertiſed for ſale, to pay his creditors; and praying the Houſe to grant him the ſum of *five hundred pounds* of the money lent by him to this ſtate, or ſuch other preſent relief as this Houſe may deem juſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Cart,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 11th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Tyſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to confer with Council concerning the time, place and manner of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the meſſage from the Vice-Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the inſtructions to *Richard Butler* and *John Gibſon,* Eſquires, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the donation lands, together with the letter from *Jonathan Hart,* be referred to Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Broadhead,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the boundary lines of this ſtate be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Richards,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the report of the Board of Treaſury of the United States, reſpecting penſioners, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Joſeph R. Robinſon,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Sickle,* Mr. *Richards* and Mr. *Roberts,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the requiſitions of Congreſs for the years 1787 and 1788, and the act of Congreſs reſpecting penſioners, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the ſubject of the motion adopted in the late Houſe *October* 3d, together with the papers relative to the ſaid ſubject, *viz.* the diſturbances in conſequence of the conteſted claims to lands within the county of *Luzerne,* be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Downing,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Johnſon,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and "hold real eſtates within this commonwealth,*" be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Balliot,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the report on the memorial of Dr. *William Smith* be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the report relative to the eſtabliſhment of an aſſay office be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Johnſon,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the petition of *Frances Budden* be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Broadhead,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the report on the petition from the county of *Huntingdon,* reſpecting the county lines, be referred to the members from the counties of *Bedford* and *Huntingdon,* with the addition of Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the remainder of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to confer with Council reſpecting the time, place and manner of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, reported, that Council recommend that to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, be aſſigned for holding the ſaid election, and that the Aſſembly-Chamber be the place; and they propoſe the following order of proceſſion, *viz.*

ORDER of PROCESSION.

Conſtables, with their ſtaves.

Sub-Sheriffs, with their wands.

High-Sheriff and Coroner, with their wands.

Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals.

Attorney-General, and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

Marſhal of the Admiralty.

Judge and Regiſter of the Admiralty.

Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia.*

Naval-Officer, Collector of the Cuſtoms, and Tonnage-Officer.

Treaſurer and Comptroller-General.

Secretary of the Land-Office.

Receiver-General and Surveyor-General.

Juſtices of the Peace.

Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and Clerk of the Court of Quarter Seſſions.

Clerk of the City Court.
Maſter of the Rolls and Regiſter of Wills.
Regiſter of *German* Paſſengers and Collector of Exciſe
in the City and County.
Aſſiſtant-Secretary of the Council.
Secretary of Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT, and Honorable the VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.
Door-keeper of the Council.
Serjeant at Arms, with the mace.
Clerks of the General Aſſembly.
Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.
Members of the General Aſſembly, two and two.
Door-keeper of the General Aſſembly.
Provoſt and Faculty of the Univerſity.
Officers of the Militia.
Citizens.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Johnſon* be a committee, to affix the ſeal to the laws which may be enacted by this Houſe.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 5, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of repreſentatives to ſerve in Aſſembly for the county of *Fayette* was read, by which it appeared that *John Gilchreeſt* and *Theophilus Philips*, Eſquires, were duly returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid county for the enſuing year.

Henry Dering, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, and *John Gilchreeſt* and *Theophilus Philips*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *Fayette*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

The petition of the Rector, Churchwardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St. *John*, at *York-town*, in the county of *York*, read in the late Houſe *September* 4th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Elizabeth Parker*, read in the late Houſe *September* 19th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable ſuch of the members of the Legiſlature and of the Executive Council, as may be in the city of *Philadelphia* on the day appointed for holding the election of members to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, to vote in the ſaid city; and to enable ſuch of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cheſter* and *Northumberland* as are by law entitled to vote for repreſentatives, and are on that day attending the courts of the ſaid counties, to vote at the reſpective court-houſes: Provided, that none of the perſons aforeſaid ſhall be allowed to vote out of the diſtrict in which he reſides, till he ſhall have proved by oath or affirmation that he has not before voted, and that he will not vote in any other diſtrict on that day.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed to examine the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land-officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed*," be referred to Mr. *Cunningham*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee appointed to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for incorporating the city of *Philadelphia*, on principles conformably to the conſtitution of this ſtate.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Supreme Executive Council being introduced into the Aſſembly Chamber, conformably to the reſolution of yeſterday, proceeded, in conjunction with the Houſe, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, purſuant to the nineteenth ſection of the conſtitution, and elected, by ballot, His Excellency *THOMAS MIFFLIN*, Eſq; Preſident, and the Honorable *GEORGE ROSS*, Eſq; Vice-Preſident, for the enſuing year; and the members of Council and General Aſſembly having ſeverally ſigned a declaration thereof,

The Houſe then, in the order of proceſſion, attended the proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, at the court-houſe in the city of *Philadelphia*; and having returned to the Aſſembly-Chamber,

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, was read, incloſing an account of his receipts and expenditures from the 1ſt day of *November* 1787, to the 1ſt day of *September* laſt, together with his remarks on the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of *March* 29th laſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 6, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

David M'Clellan, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A petition from the members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Tredyſfrin* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The petition of the contributors towards the founding and endowing a public ſchool for the town and county of *Huntingdon*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 11th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Rector, Churchwardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtent Epiſcopal Church of St. *John* at *York-town*, in the county of *York*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 15th laſt, were preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the members from the county of *Dauphin*, to report thereon.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, incloſing a ſtate of the finances of this commonwealth, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with its encloſure, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, with its encloſures, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gilchreeſt* be added to the committee on ways and means.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to whom is referred the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the ſecond day of *October* laſt, relative to the ſevere exaction of the heavy fines incurred under former ſyſtems of militia laws, and to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to enable ſuch perſons within this ſtate, who are entitled to votes in* " *the election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Houſe of Repreſentatives* " *of the United States, and who ſhall be neceſſarily out of their reſpective di-* " *ſtricts at the enſuing election, to give their votes in the ſeveral places where* " *public*

"*public buſineſs ſhall require their attendance;*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 7, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

James Marſhall, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A petition from *Jonas Philips* was read, praying the act for regulating auctions and vendues may be repealed, and that this Houſe may take into conſideration the bill publiſhed by the late Houſe of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act to regulate Auctions and Vendues,*" and paſs the ſame into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Benjamin Burton* and *Robert Hunter,* inſolvent debtors, confined in gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Sickle,* Mr. *Roberts* and Mr. *Richards,* to report thereon.

Petitions from *Thomas Bradford, Robert Aitken* and Son, and *Dunlap* and *Claypoole* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed printers of the laws which may be enacted, and the bills ordered to be printed for public conſideration; from *Hall* and *Sellers,* and *Francis Bailey,* ſeverally praying to be appointed printers of the journals of this Houſe; and from *Michael Bilmeyer,* and *Melchior Steiner,* praying to be appointed printers of the minutes, and of the bills which may be ordered to be printed in the *German* language; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame petitions were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Johnſon,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the election of printers be poſtponed until to-morrow.

A memorial from the religious ſociety called Quakers was read, remonſtrating againſt theatrical exhibitions being tolerated by law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petition of the contributors towards founding and endowing a public ſchool for the town and county of *Huntingdon,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Daviſon,* to report theron.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the election of three Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, until the conſtitution for the government of the ſaid United States ſhall be in operation, and that the nomination take place previous to that day.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of* Tredyffrin, *in* "*the county of* Cheſter," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable ſuch perſons within this ſtate, who* "*are entitled to votes in the election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the* "*Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, and who ſhall be neceſſarily* "*out of their reſpective diſtricts at the enſuing election, to give their votes in* "*the ſeveral places where public buſineſs ſhall require their attendance,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 8, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Broadhead* have leave of abſence.

The petition of *Frances Ramie,* read in the laſt Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 17th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of claims.

Petitions from *Thomas Jones* and *John M'Elroy* were read, ſetting forth, that they had ſerved as part of the quota of *Pennſylvania* in the armies of the United States, from the commencement until the end of the late war with Great-Britain, and afterwards enliſted in the troops raiſed for the protection of the frontiers of the United States; that by reaſon of ſevere ſervice in the field and infirmities, they are rendered unfit for further duty and incapacitated from obtaining their livelihood by labor; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them ſome temporary relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee of claims.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

Reſolved, That ſuch and ſo many of the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the 1ſt day of *June* 1780, as are now or ſhall be in the Treaſury during this ſeſſion, be forthwith counted, burned and deſtroyed by the committee of accounts, agreeable to the law enacted the 22d day of *March,* 1788.

The committee appointed *November* 6th, on the reſolution of the late Houſe recommending an exoneration of militia fines, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to ſuſpend for a limited time the collection of all militia fines incurred before the 22d day of *March* laſt.

On the queſtion—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the foregoing reſolution,*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Marſhall,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William M‘Pherſon,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *John Chapman,*
8 *Valentine Upp,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Richard Thomas,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Mark Wilcox,*
13 *John M‘Dowell,*
14 *Caleb James,*
15 *Richard Downing,* jun.
16 *James Clemſon,*
17 *John Hopkins,*
18 *Jacob Erb,*
19 *Henry Dering,*
20 *David M‘Clellan,*
21 *Thomas Lilley,*
22 *Henry Tyſon,*
23 *Joſeph Reed,*
24 *Jacob Saylor,*
25 *John White,*
26 *John Irwin,*
27 *William Todd,*
28 *John Nevil,*
29 *James Johnſon,*
30 *Robert Lollar,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *Jonathan Roberts,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *Obadiah Gore,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *James Cunningham,*
2 *David Mitchell,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
9 *Peter Ealer,*
10 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
11 *Stephen Balliot,*
12 *John Piper,*
13 *James Barr,*
14 *James Marſhall,*
15 *Alexander Wright,*
16 *John Gilchreeſt,*
17 *Theophilus Philips,*
18 *James M‘Lene,*
19 *Peter Richards,*
20 *Jacob Miley,*
21 *Adam Orth.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *M‘Dowell,* Mr. *Lollar,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Johnſon,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petitions of the printers, made report, which was read: Whereupon,

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a printer of the laws, and bills which may be ordered for public conſideration; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Thomas Bradford* was duly elected.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, *Hall* and *Sellers* printers of the minutes of this Houſe.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, *Michael Billmeyer* printer of the minutes in the *German* language, and *Melchior Steiner* printer of the bills which may be ordered for publication in the *German* language.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 10, 1788. P. M.

A number of members, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment; but Mr. Speaker, through indiſpoſition, being unable to attend the ſervice of the ſtate, it was moved and ſeconded to adjourn: Whereupon,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 11, 1788. A. M.

A number of members, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment; but Mr. Speaker continuing indiſpoſed,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 12, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of a number of the Juſtices of the peace, and other officers of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 29th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Weſtmoreland*, to report thereon.

A memorial and petition from *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry*, in behalf of themſelves and others, the comedians, commonly called the *American Company*, was read, praying the report of the committee, read in the late Houſe *March* 28th laſt, relative to the eſtabliſhment of a theatre, may be taken into conſideration, and licence granted them for theatrical exhibitions, under ſuch regulations and reſtrictions as this Houſe may deem proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Reverend *William Rogers*, in behalf of himſelf, and the Reverend *David Jones* and *Robert M'Murdie*, was read, referring to their memorial read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and the prayer thereof granted; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of claims, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Sheridan*, late of the ſtate navy, was read, praying he may be allowed the pay of an invalid, in conſideration of the wounds he received whilſt in the ſervice of this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of claims, with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report thereon.

A petition from *Blackall William Ball*, late a Lieutenant in the third *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that in 1783 he loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of claims, to report thereon.

The petition of *Edward Stiles*, read in the late Houſe *September* 4th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

A memorial and petition from the Truſtees of *Waſhington* academy was read, praying they may be allowed to locate the warrants iſſued to them for the endowment of ſaid academy within the donation lands; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Henry C. Baker*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Sickle*, Mr. *Roberts* and Mr. *Richards*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift* was read, ſetting forth, that they have built and compleated a floating bridge over the river *Neſhaminey*, at the place heretofore called *Baldwin*'s ferry, with a convenient draw for flats, ſhallops and boats to paſs through, and praying an act may be paſſed for eſtabliſhing the ſaid bridge; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Bucks*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on the letter from *Jonathan Hart*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the donation lands, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, the collection of all militia fines in*" "*curred under laws paſſed before the twenty-ſecond day of* March, *one thouſand* "*ſeven hundred and eighty-eight*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for the election of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtponed until *Friday* next, and that the nomination take place previous to that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gore* be added to the committee appointed *November* 4th, on the motion relative to the ſubject of conteſted claims to lands within the county of *Luzerne*.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*, and adopted, as follows, *viz*.

Whereas the General Aſſembly did, on the twenty-ninth day of *March* laſt, Reſolve——

" That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſt-
" ed to call upon the reſpective County Lieutenants within this ſtate, for
" the actual returns of all perſons within their reſpective counties made
" ſubject by law to the performance of militia duties, together with a re-
" turn of the perſons who have actually attended on muſter days within the
" years 1785, 1786 and 1787, and that ſuch returns be laid before the Ge-
" neral Aſſembly at their next ſeſſion."

Reſolved, That Council be requeſted to inform the Houſe what returns have been made in obedience to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *November* 8th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of appointing commiſſioners to run and aſcertain the boundary lines of *Huntingdon* county, or at leaſt ſuch parts thereof as ſhall be deemed neceſſary to be run and aſcertained.

Ordered, That the members from the counties of *Bedford* and *Huntingdon*, with the addition of Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Lollar*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable ſuch perſons within this ſtate, who*
" *are entitled to vote in the election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the*
" *Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, and who ſhall be neceſſarily out*
" *of their reſpective diſtricts at the enſuing election, to give their votes in*
" *the ſeveral places where public buſineſs ſhall require their attendance*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 13, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the miniſters of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia* was read, referring to their petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying for a grant of a part of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate, for the endowment of a charity ſchool for the education of the youth of ſaid congregation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Barns,* Attorney to *James Rumſey,* was read, praying that the report of a committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *October* 2d laſt, on the petitions of *James Rumſey* and others, may be taken into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman* be added to the committee appointed *November* 4th, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the boundary lines of this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Nevil* be added to the committee, to whom was referred the report of the committee of the late Houſe on the memorial of the Reverend Doctor *William Smith.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Marſhall* be added to the committee appointed *November* 4th, on the petition of *Frances Budden.*

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of ways and means report——

That by an act paſſed on the ſeventeenth day of *March,* 1786, it is among other things provided, that ſuch of the bills of credit as were emitted in purſuance of the act of the firſt day of *June,* 1780, and were not brought into the Treaſury on or before the firſt day of *January,* 1789, ſhould be afterwards irredeemable; that by the ſtatement of the Comptroller-General it appears, that on the firſt day of *September* laſt there was to the amount of thirty-ſix thouſand dollars of the ſaid bills unredeemed, owing in part to the want of money at the Treaſury to exchange them when offered; and as there is a fund provided for the redemption of the ſaid bills, and it would be unjuſt to deprive the holders of their property therein, the committee offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of the act, entituled " *An Act to provide for the payment of the* " *principal and intereſt of ſuch of the bills, emitted purſuant to reſolution of* " *Congreſs of the eighteenth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and* " *eighty, and an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate of* June *the firſt, one thou-* " *ſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the thirty-* " *firſt day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix,"* as makes the bills of credit of *June,* 1780, irredeemable after the 1ſt day of *January,* 1789.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are happy in the belief that the affairs of the ſtate, and the proſpects of the union, afford a juſt foundation to addreſs the legiſlature in terms of congratulation.

The principal difficulties which obſtructed the adoption of the fœderal conſtitution have been happily overcome; the prejudice and ſuſpicion that were awakened by the appearance of that ſyſtem have been gradually lulled, and we can no longer doubt that all thoſe ſtates which have been ſucceſsfully allied to obtain the independence of *America*, will again be united in that beſt means of giving ſtrength, dignity and ſtability to the national character. Nor can it be deemed viſionary or unreaſonable, to aſcribe to the influence of the new government the liberal attention and encouragement which of late have been beſtowed upon domeſtic arts and maufactures; the ſpirit of induſtry and œconomy that has ſpread itſelf through every order of ſociety; and the perfect amity which ſubſiſts at this period amongſt the inhabitants of the ſeveral ſtates.

From the ſame ſource that has thus revived the hope of internal order and happineſs, we cannot fail to derive the reſpect and confidence of foreign nations. For in the great intercourſe of independent countries, the proper title to reciprocal advantage is the power each enjoys of protecting its own commerce, and the diſpoſition which each evinces to maintain its own credit. Experience has demonſtrated the inconveniences of a government in which that power does not reſide, and has taught us to believe, that a more happy effect will naturally flow from a government differently conſtituted. And while the ſovereignties of *Europe* are ſuffering all the calamities of an extenſive war, it muſt yield a laudable ſatisfaction to every patriotic mind, that we enjoy the profitable opportunity of improving the great advantages that lie before us.

Impreſſed with theſe ſentiments we are ready to declare, that in every act that can promote the welfare of the union, or the intereſts of this ſtate, we ſhall, in the manner moſt beneficial to the public, moſt chearfully exerciſe that juriſdiction which the conſtitution has confided to us: And as we ſhall be ſolicitous on every occaſion to concur in the deſigns, and to advance the intentions of the legiſlature, we truſt that the harmony of our proceedings will produce an additional confidence in our conſtituents, and give a proper energy to the adminiſtration of the public affairs.

GENTLEMEN,

IT may be neceſſary to make proviſion by law for the appointment of perſons to diſcharge the duties of ſheriffs, in caſes of conteſted elections in which it may not be expedient for the Executive immediately to decide, and in which the former Sheriffs who have been in office three years cannot conſtitutionally act.

The tax laws ſhould in our opinion be reviſed; the aſſeſſments of the public taxes are in many inſtances unequal, and their collection generally expenſive, uncertain and dilatory.

The following reſervations ſhould, in the opinion of Council, be made for the commonwealth, *viz.* 1. *Preſque Iſle*, formed by *Lake Erie.* 2. *Le Beuf*, at the head of the navigation of *French* creek; and 3. The lands adjacent to the mouth of *Conewango*, in the county of *Allegheny.*

The commiſſioners appointed by virtue of the act, entituled "*An Act* "*to appropriate the ſum of* two thouſand pounds *of the public monies to the* "*laying out and making of an highway from the weſtern parts of* Cumberland "*county to the town of* Pittſburgh, *and to authoriſe the Preſident in Council* "*to appoint commiſſioners to lay out the ſame,*" have laid out that road, which

F we

This road [illegible] made [illegible] the
old Pennsylvania road [illegible]

we have confirmed as far as the town of *Bedford*. We think a review of that part which lies weſtward of the town of *Bedford* abſolutely neceſſary; but as the money appropriated for the laying out and compleating the ſaid road is nearly expended, we cannot proceed in the review without the further directions and aid of the legiſlature.

We ſuggeſt to the legiſlature the propriety of directing engravings of the boundary lines of this ſtate, and the publication of the reports of the ſeveral commiſſioners who compleated thoſe lines.

We have not obſerved on the printed Journals of the late Houſe, that any order hath been taken on the recommendation of Congreſs with reſpect to convicts imported into the ſtates from the *Britiſh* dominions, which recommendation was laid before that Houſe by Council.

We tranſmit herewith two letters from the Secretary of Congreſs, of the 28th of *July*, 1785, and 22d of *October*, 1788, in which Council are requeſted to ſupply him with thirteen copies of the laws of the commonwealth; this cannot be done, unleſs a number are printed for the purpoſe: we alſo tranſmit a letter from the ſame, dated the 7th of *November*, 1788, incloſing journals of Congreſs from *Auguſt* the 20th to the end of the fœderal year. A letter from the Delegates of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, on the ſubject of a reſolution of the General Aſſembly of the 4th of *October* laſt, alſo accompanies this meſſage.

Colonel *Febiger*'s repreſentation on ſome late attempts to avoid the payment of duties on merchandize ſold by auction, is ſubmitted to the General Aſſembly.

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Preſident.

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, *November* 12*th*, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration of that part of the meſſage which reſpects a reviſion of the tax laws, be poſtponed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Balliot*, Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which relates to proviſion being made by law for the appointment of perſons to the duties of Sheriffs in the caſes of conteſted elections.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage relative to a reſervation of certain tracts of land for the uſe of the commonwealth, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Marſhall* be a committee, to confer with Council on that part of the meſſage which reſpects a review of the road weſtward of the town of *Bedford*, and to report what ſum of money will be neceſſary to effect that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage which ſuggeſts the propriety of directing engravings of the boundary lines of this ſtate, and the publication of the reports of the ſeveral Commiſſioners who compleated thoſe lines.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to report on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the recommendation of

Congreſs

Roads 1st – [illegible] Indian road 1758
2 – State of Pennsylvania road 1788-9
3 – Turnpike road 1816
[illegible] 1850

Congreſs concerning the importation of convicts into the ſtates from the *Britiſh* dominions.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, on the letter from the Secretary of Congreſs, requeſting thirteen copies of the laws of this commonwealth for the uſe of Congreſs, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from the Delegates of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and the repreſentation of Colonel *Febiger,* on ſome late attempts to avoid the payment of duties on merchandize ſold by auction, lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend for a limited time the collection of* " *all militia fines incurred under laws paſſed before the twenty-ſecond day of* " March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable ſuch perſons within this ſtate, who* " *are entitled to vote in the election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Houſe* " *of Repreſentatives of the United States, and who ſhall be neceſſarily out of* " *their reſpective diſtricts at the enſuing election, to give their votes in the ſeve-* " *ral places where public buſineſs ſhall require their attendance,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 14, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Charles Beſſonet* was read, ſetting forth, that a law hath been paſſed, veſting in him and *Gerſhom Johnſton* the right of erecting and maintaining a bridge over *Neſhaminy* river, which they have, with the aid of a conſiderable ſubſcription, erected and compleated; that *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift* have erected a floating bridge acroſs the ſaid river, without the authority of the legiſlature, and in direct violation of the act of Aſſembly declaring the ſaid river a public highway; that the ſaid *Gerſhom Johnſton* having become inſolvent, the whole debts remaining unpaid for building the ſaid bridge devolved on the petitioner; that being thus injured, he applied to the Attorney-General at the laſt court of oyer and terminer for the county of *Bucks,* who, conſidering the countenance he had received from the legiſlature and the hardſhip of his ſituation, cauſed a bill of indictment for a nuiſance to be preſented againſt *Joſeph Baldwin,* the only proprietor of the floating bridge reſiding in that county, but the Grand Jury returned it ignoramus; that he being apprehenſive other bills of indictment may meet the ſame fate, prays for a prohibition againſt the erection or continuance of any other bridge, upon ſuch terms, and under ſuch penalties as may be neceſſary, and that he may have leave to bring in a bill for that purpoſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 12th on the petition of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift,* with the addition of Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of this ſtate was read; praying an act may be paſſed, aſcertaining the fees which every officer ſhall be entitled to receive, as a full compenſation for his ſervices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the miniſters of the *German* Lutheran congregation, in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *Reiff*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, until the conſtitution for the government of the ſaid United States ſhall be in operation, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *John Armſtrong*, junior, *James R. Reid* and *Tench Coxe*, Eſquires, were duly elected.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee to confer with Council, on the ſubject of the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the twenty-ninth day of *March* laſt, which requeſts "Council to call upon the reſpective County Lieutenants "within this ſtate for the actual returns of all perſons within their reſpective "counties, made ſubject by law to the performance of militia duties, toge-"ther with a return of the perſons who have actually attended on muſter "days within the years 1785, 1786 and 1787, and that ſuch returns be laid "before the General Aſſembly at their next ſeſſion," and that the committee report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 4th, on the motion relative to the ſubject of conteſted claims to lands within the county of *Luzerne*, be inſtructed to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The committee appointed *November* 6th, on the petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of the Juſtices of the Peace of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of the contributors towards the founding and endowing a public ſchool for the town and county of *Huntingdon*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of granting and confirming to the county of *Huntingdon* acres, of the ſixty thouſand acres reſerved by act of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, for the endowment of county ſchools.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Daviſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That the letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, dated at *Paris*, *May* 4th, 1788, tranſmitting the opinion of the Academy of Sciences at *Paris*,

Paris, on the principles and conſtruction of the model of a bridge over the *Schuylkill,* together with the original, and a tranſlation of the ſaid opinion, entered on the minutes of this Houſe.

PARIS, *May 4th,* 1788.

SIR,

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency, to be preſented to the General Aſſembly, the opinion of the Academy of Sciences at *Paris* on the principles and conſtruction of the model, which I made in *America,* for a bridge of one arch, of the extent of four hundred feet, in iron, to be erected over the *Schuylkill,* at *Philadelphia.*

I have the pleaſure of adding, that there is a proſpect that the conſtruction will be adopted in this country for a bridge over the *Seine,* oppoſite the King's gardens, in which caſe the bridge is to be manufactured in *America,* and ſent ready prepared to *Paris.*

I am, your Excellency's obedient humble ſervant,

THOMAS PAINE.

His Excellency BENJ. FRANKLIN,
Preſident of the State of Pennſylvania.

Extrait des Regiſtres de l'ACADEMIE ROYALE *des* SCIENCES, *du* 29 Aouſt, 1787.

L'ACADEMIE nous a chargés M. M. le Chevalier de *Borda,* l'Abbé *Boſſut,* et M. le *Roy,* d'examiner le projet d'un pont de fer d'une ſeule arche, de quatre cens piés de long, qui lui a eté preſenté en modele par M. *Paine,* membre de la Societé Philoſophique de *Philadelphie,* et d'aprés le vœu du committé des etats de *Pennſylvanie,* qui etoit chargé d'en donner ſon avis.

Nous avons examiné ce projet avec toute l'attention qu'exige une matiere de cette importance.

Il eſt ſur que lorſqu'on penſe au projet d'une arche en fer de 400 piés d'ouverture, et aux effets qui peuvent reſulter d'une arche d'une ſi vaſte etendue; il eſt difficile de ne pas elever des doutes, ſur le ſuccés d'une pareille entrepriſe, par les difficultés qu'elle preſente au premier apperçu. Mais ſi telle eſt la diſpoſition des parties, et la maniere dont elles ſont réunies qu'il reſulte de cet aſſemblage un tout trés ferme et trés ſolide, alors on n'aura plus les memes doutes ſur la réuſſite de ce projet.

Or, c'eſt ce que nous allons examiner, et comme le pont n'eſt compoſé que de fermes toutes ſemblables, nous nous bornerons á conſiderer ce qui pourra arriver á l'une ou á l'autre de ces fermes; le reſultat etant applicable á toutes ou au pont en entier.

Nous obſerverons d'abord, quant á la premiere queſtion, ou á la force de la ferme pour reſiſter á la charge de toutes ſes parties, que chaque ferme, formant un arc et tendant par ſa peſanteur á deſcendre, elle tendra en même tems á ſ'étendre, mais qu'etant retenue par ſes deux extremités cet effet ne poura avoir lieu: d'oú il reſultera une action de refoulement ſur toutes ſes parties: Or cette action reſultera d'autant plus de la conſtruction de la ferme que ſes parties etant toutes retenues de fort prés par les boulons et les tuyaux

de fonte, qui les lient enſemble, il ne pourra y avoir veritablement d'autre effet que celui de ce refoulement des parties les unes ſur les autres : Mais on ſait que le fer a beaucoup de force pour reſiſter á cette eſpece de preſſion, une ligne carrée de ce metal pouvant ſoutenir, dans ce ſens, une preſſion au moins de mille livres, et les bandes longitudinales d'une ferme, devant avoir ſuivant M. *Paine*, douze lignes d'epais ſur quarante huit de large, et leur ſuperficie étant en conſequence de 576 lignes carrées, ces 576 lignes multipliées par 1000 donneront pour leur reſiſtance totale, une force de plus de 55000 livres ; mais ſelon la juſte eſtimation qu'il a faite de la peſanteur d'une des fermes de ſon pont, elle doit ſe monter á 52000 livres, ou á peu prés ; il en reſultera donc bien evidemment, que la force reſiſtante de ces bandes, l'emportera de beaucoup ſur celle de compreſſion, qu'elles eprouveront, et par conſequent, qu'elles auront toute la force neceſſaire pour réſiſter á la charge reſultante de la ferme et des autres poids additionnels, dont elle pourra etre chargée, *&c.*

Le poids qu'eſt en etat de porter le petit modele du pont de M. *Paine* ſemble montrer quelle eſt la force qui reſulte de l'aſſemblage qu'il a ſu donner á ſe sdifferentes parties ; car quoiqu'il ne ſoit compoſé que de quatre fermes, formées chacune de ſept bandes qui nónt pas une demie ligne d'epaiſſeur, il a porté cependant ſix perſonnes ou á peu prés 800 livres, en eſtimant leur poids moyen de 130 livres.

Quant á la ſeconde queſtion, ou á l'effet de ce pont ſur ſes culées ; on remarquera que malgré l'augmentation de preſſion qu'elles eprouveront en conſequence de la decompoſition des forces, il n'en reſultera cependant pas un grand effet contre ces culées á cauſe de la grande légereté d'un pareil pont.

Les effets de la chaleur et du froid ſur ce pont ne paroiſſent pas non plus á redouter : l'experience de celui de *Colebrookdale*, dont nous avons parlé, le prouve ſuffiſament ; de plus la dilatation, n'étant que d'environ deux tiers de ligne pour 27 degrés du thermometre de *Reaumur*, on voit que cet allonge ment ne fera pas une difference de 44 lignes, ce qui ne pourra cauſer qu'un trés mediocre éxhauſſement dans le pont.

Nous n'avons parlé juſqu'ici, que des points qu'il etoit le plus eſſentiel de conſiderer dans la conſtruction du pont de M. *Paine* ; mais il en eſt encore quelques autres qui meritent attention.

Il eſt certain, par exemple, qu'un pont de cette etendue, donnant, quoiqu'il ait peu d'epaiſſeur, une aſſez grande priſe au vent, il faudra avoir egard dans ſa conſtruction á cet effet, et nous ne doutons pas que M. *Paine* ne ſ'en occupe.

Un effet qui ne demande pas moins d'attention, c'eſt celui qui pourra reſulter de la difference d'homogeneité 'de ſes parties, car cet effet pourroit produire une eſpéce de torſion qu'il ſera important de prevenir. Or la meilleure maniere d'y réuſſir, et de donner en même tems á ce pont toute la ſolidité requiſe, ſera de l'elargir ou de l'evaſer vers les extremités.

Pour cet effet, on formera vers les culées, une partie en trompe qui etant plus large que le pont, dans une certaine proportion, ira ſucceſſivement en ſe retreciſſant, á meſure qu'elle ſ'eloignera de ces culées on lui donnera la courbure d'un arc de cercle, decrit d'un trés grand rayon, et ces portions d'arcs, ſ'avançant de part et d'autre vers le milieu du pont lui donneront une grande force pour reſiſter á tous les mouvements horiſontaux.

M. *Paine* ayant toute la facilité poſſible pour donner á ſon pont, la courbe la plus avantageuſe lui donnera ſans doute celle de la chainette. Cependant la courbure d'un arc de cercle d'un ſi grande ouverture, ne differant pas ſenſiblement de celle de la chainette, on peut ſans inconvenient le ſubſtituer á cette courbe.

Un avantage particulier de ce pont et qui eſt veritablement important; c'eſt qu'on peut en faire des experiences en grand et de maniere á en tirer les conſequences les plus certaines par rapport á ſa force, et á ſon action ou a ſa preſſion contre les culées. Car il eſt clair qu'il ne faudra pour cela qu'en monter ſur un terrein choiſi la moitié, un tiers, un quart, ou telle autre partie qu'on voudra pour pouvoir fair enſuite toutes les experiences neceſſaires; et ces experiences étant une fois faites, ſi elles repondent á ce qu'on en attendoit; on pourra demonter enſuite les parties de cette portion du pont et les remonter de nuveau pour en former le pont en entier.

Nous concluons de tout ce que nous venons d'expoſer, que le pont de fer de M. *Paine*, eſt ingenieuſement imaginé, que la conſtruction en eſt ſimple, ſolide, et propre á lui donner la force neceſſaire pour reſiſter aux effets reſultans de ſa charge, et qu'il merite qu'on en tente l'execution; enfin qu'il pourra fournir un nouvel exemple des applications d'un metal, dont on ná pas juſqu'ici fait aſſez d'uſage en grand, quoique dans nombre d'occaſions il eût pu etre employé avec le plus grand ſuccés.

A l'Academie le 29 Aouſt, 1787.

Le Chevalier de BORDA,
BOSSUT,
Le ROY.

Je certifie le preſent extrait conforme á l'original et au jugement de l'Academie a *Paris* le 30 *Aouſt*, 1787,

(Signé) Le Mis. de CONDORAT.

Tranſlation of the Report of the Committee of the Academy of Sciences of *Paris*, concerning the plan of Mr. *Paine*'s iron bridge, dated *Auguſt* 29th, 1787.

Extract from the Records of the ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, *of* Auguſt 29th, 1787.

WE the underwritten, having been directed by the Academy to examine the plan of an iron bridge of a ſingle arch, four hundred feet long, preſented to them in a model by Mr. *Paine*, a member of the Philoſophical Society of *Philadelphia*; and agreeably to the deſire of the committee of the General Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania*, appointed to report thereon, have examined that model with all the attention due to a matter of ſo much importance.

It is certain that, upon conſidering the plan of an iron arch four hundred feet long, and reflecting upon the effects which may reſult from ſo extenſive an arch, it is difficult not to entertain doubts about the ſucceſs of ſuch an undertaking, owing to the difficulties which preſent at firſt ſight: But if the parts are ſo well diſpoſed, and connected together in ſuch a manner as to conſtitute a very ſtrong and very ſolid whole, no ſuch doubts can then remain concerning the ſucceſs of the plan.

We are therefore going to examine theſe particulars: And as the bridge is only compoſed of girders entirely alike, we ſhall only conſider what may happen to either of theſe girders; as the conſequence is applicable to all the girders, or to the whole bridge.

As to the firſt queſtion, or ſtrength of the girder to reſiſt the weight of all its parts: We ſhall firſt obſerve, that each of the girders forming an arch, and by its own weight naturally compreſſing the circle, will of courſe expand the length; but that the extenſion being prevented by both the ends being kept in the ſame place, will cauſe the preſſure to be equally received by all parts of the bridge, and this being the caſe, the arch will retain its original area. Now, this action of preſſure will ſo much the more depend upon the conſtruction of the girder, that all its parts being kept very cloſe by the bolts and caſt pipes which unite them together, there can really be no other effect but that of the preſſure of the parts one upon the other. But it is known that iron has much ſtrength to reſiſt that kind of preſſure, ſince a ſquare line of that metal can bear in that ſenſe a preſſure of at leaſt 1000 pounds, and as the longitudinal bands of a girder ought to be, according to Mr. *Paine*'s opinion, 12 lines thick and 48 broad, and as their ſurface is conſequently of 576 ſquare lines, theſe 576 lines multiplied by 1000 will give for their total reſiſtance a ſtrength exceeding 55000 pounds: But according to his accurate eſtimation of the weight of a ſingle girder of his bridge, it muſt amount to about 52000 pounds: The conſequence will then ſurely be, that the reſiſting ſtrength of theſe bands will much exceed that of the preſſure which they will have to bear, and therefore they will have all the ſtrength neceſſary to reſiſt the weight of the girder, as well as of other additional weights with which it may be loaded.

The weight which the ſmall model of Mr. *Paine* is able to bear, ſeems to ſhew the ſtrength reſulting from the union he has found means to give to its different parts; for, though it is compoſed of only four girders, each conſiſting of ſeven bands, each not half a line thick, it has nevertheleſs borne ſix perſons, or near about 800 pounds, valuing the weight of each at 130 pounds.

As to the ſecond queſtion, or the effect of that bridge upon its butments, it is to be obſerved, that notwithſtanding the greater preſſure they will bear in conſequence of the ſtrength being equally diſtributed to all the parts of the bridge, the effect however will be but ſmall, owing to the great lightneſs of ſuch a bridge.

It does not appear that the effects of either heat or cold are to be apprehended: We have a ſufficient proof of this in the trial of that of *Colebrook-dale*, of which we have already ſpoken: Beſides, as the dilatation is only of about two thirds of a line for 27 degrees of *De Reaumur*'s thermometer, we ſee that ſuch an extenſion will not make a difference of 44 lines, which can occaſion but a very ſmall riſing in the bridge.

We have heretofore ſpoken but of the moſt eſſential points to be conſidered in the conſtruction of Mr. *Paine*'s bridge: But there are ſtill ſome others deſerving of our attention.

It is certain, for inſtance, that ſuch an extenſive bridge muſt neceſſarily lie much expoſed to the wind, though of but ſmall bulk; that effect muſt be attended to in its conſtruction, and we have no doubt but Mr. *Paine* will pay attention to it.

An effect which requires no leſs attention, is that which may reſult from the difference of homogeneity (parity) in its parts; for that effect might produce a kind of twiſting, which it is important to prevent. Now the beſt means (we apprehend) to ſucceed and to give all the neceſſary ſolidity to that bridge will be, to ſpread it or make it wider towards the ends.

For which purpoſe there muſt be formed towards the butments a part jutting out, which being wider than the bridge, in a certain proportion, ſhall grow narrower by degrees from the butments. It ſhall have the bending of an arch drawn from a very great radius. And theſe parts of arches, advancing on both ſides towards the center of the bridge, will give it a conſiderable ſtrength to reſiſt all horizontal motions.

Since Mr. *Paine* can, with all poſſible eaſe, give to his bridge the moſt advantageous bending, he will undoubtedly give it that of the *chainette:* Yet as the bending of an arch of ſo conſiderable an opening does not differ ſenſibly from that of the *chainette*, this latter may without any inconvenience be ſubſtituted to the former.

It is a particular and truly important advantage of that bridge, that trials can be made in great, and in ſuch a manner as to draw the moſt certain concluſions with regard to its ſtrength, its action or preſſure againſt the butments; for it is obvious that it needs only to put up, on a choſen place, the half, a third, a fourth, or any other proportion of it that may be thought proper, in order to make all the neceſſary experiments: And if thoſe experiments once made anſwer the expectation, all the parts of that portion of the bridge can be taken to pieces, and put up anew to form the whole bridge.

From all we have juſt mentioned we conclude, that the iron bridge of Mr. *Paine* is ingeniouſly deſigned, that the conſtruction thereof is ſimple, ſolid, and proper to give it the neceſſary ſtrength to reſiſt the effects reſulting from its load, and that the inventor merits encouragement, and the plan worthy of a trial; laſtly, that it may furniſh a new example of the application of a metal which has not been heretofore ſufficiently uſed in great, though in many occaſions it might have been employed with the greateſt ſucceſs.

At the Academy, the twenty-ninth day of Auguſt, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven.*

LE CHEVALIER DE BORDA,
BOSSUT,
LE ROY.

I do certify the preſent extract conformable to its original, and to the judgment of the Academy at *Paris*, the 30th day of *Auguſt*, 1787.

(Signed) LE M. DE CONDORAT.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this common-* "*wealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 15, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Thomas Beale, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Cumberland,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, November* 14*th,* 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting to you, for the immediate conſideration of the General Aſſembly, a repreſentation of the Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia.*

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Preſident.*

The Hon. RICHARD PETERS, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſaid repreſentation was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid letter and repreſentation were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

A petition from *Chriſtian Helm* was read, ſetting forth, that his apprentice, *Aaron Sampſon,* enliſted in the ſecond *Pennſylvania* regiment in the year 1782, and continued in the ſervice until the end of the war, and for whoſe time he hath not received any compenſation, and praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

A petition from *Martin Jugiez* and *George Rutter* was read, ſetting forth, that about three years ago they furniſhed the arms of this ſtate, which are now placed over the ſeat of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and for which they have not received any compenſation, therefore praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

A petition from *Jeremiah Fiſher,* in behalf of himſelf and the volunteer company of artillery of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying they may be eſtabliſhed by law, in like manner as the light infantry companies in this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

A petition from 127 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying *Chartier*'s creek may be declared a public highway; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſeveral petitions for and againſt the meaſure on the files of the late Houſe be read; and the ſame being read, they were referred, with the petition now preſented, to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Gore,* to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, incloſing the claim of *John M'Calmont,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 8th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Leſley,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 9th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Alliſon,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Johnſon* be added to the committee of accounts.

The petition of divers inhabitants of this ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee thereon, and they are authorized to report a bill for regulating and eſtabliſhing fees, and, if deemed neceſſary, to employ a perſon or perſons to aid them in the completion of that important buſineſs.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Balliot* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of the miniſters of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petitions of divers inſolvent debtors confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to grant unto *Henry C. Baker, Joſeph R. Robiſon, Benjamin Burton* and *Robert R. Hunter,* and each of them, relief in like manner, and upon the ſame terms, as by the laws of this commonwealth now in force is provided for inſolvent debtors, who are confined in execution for debt to any one perſon to the value of *forty ſhillings,* and upwards.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sickle,* Mr. *Richards* and Mr. *Roberts* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for erecting part of *Bedford* "county into a ſeparate county," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday,

Monday, November 17, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying the laws for the maintenance of the poor may be reviſed, and that an act be paſſed, obliging the taxable inhabitants of the ſaid county to pay for the ſupport of their poor in proportion to their reſpective abilities, and therein to appoint truſtees, to purchaſe and take in truſt a ſmall parcel of land, for the purpoſe of erecting neceſſary buildings thereon to accommodate their poor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 485 freeholders and others, inhabitants of the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying an act may be paſſed to aſſeſs and levy an equal tax upon all the taxables in the ſaid townſhip, for the purpoſe of ſupporting their own poor, and that ſo much of the preſent poor laws as attaches the ſaid townſhip to the Houſe of Employment in the city of *Philadelphia* may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *Tench Coxe*, Eſquire, elected a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, until the conſtitution for the government of the ſaid United States ſhall be in operation, notifying his acceptance of the ſaid appointment, was read.

The petition of *Joſeph Barnes*, in behalf of *James Rumſey*, read *November* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

On motion,

Reſolved, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Dering*, Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Ihrie*, Mr. *Saylor*, Mr. *White*, Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *Marſhall*, Mr. *Philips*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Roberts*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Daviſon* be a committee, to report a plan for the improvement of the public roads within this ſtate.

Ordered, That a motion made in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *October* 4th, and by them recommended to this Houſe, relative to the laying out of a public highway from the higheſt boatable waters of the weſt branch of the river *Suſquehanna*, to the neareſt boatable waters of the river *Allegheney*, be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of the Miniſters of the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 15th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for granting acres of the unappropriated lands of this ſtate to the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, for the purpoſe of endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Reiff* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enable the Land-Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes* "*therein deſcribed,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* Henry Cleland Baker, Joſeph Richard Robeſon, "Benjamin Burton *and* Robert Hunter, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol* "*of the city and county of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 18, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow* was read, ſetting forth, that by order of the Supreme Executive Council they repaired and cleaned the arms of the militia of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, in expectation of receiving payment upon completion of the work, and ſtating that they have only received a ſmall part of the ſum due to them, and praying this Houſe to direct payment of the balance remaining unpaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 14th, to confer with Council on the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the 29th *March* laſt, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the legiſlature of this ſtate did, by their reſolution of the 29th *March* laſt, Requeſt——

" That the Supreme Executive Council ſhall call upon the reſpective Coun-
" ty Lieutenants within this ſtate for the actual returns of all perſons within
" their reſpective counties, made ſubject by law to the performance of mi-
" litia duties, together with a return of the perſons who have actually at-
" tended on muſter days within the years 1785, 1786 and 1787, and that
" ſuch returns be laid before the General Aſſembly at their next ſeſſion."

And by one other reſolution of the 14th inſtant, did requeſt of Council to inform the Houſe what returns had been made in obedience to the foregoing reſolution.

And whereas it has been repreſented to a committee appointed to confer with Council upon this ſubject, that ſuch returns cannot be obtained, in as much as the number of perſons attending on muſter days is not aſcertained: Therefore

Reſolved, That ſo much of the ſaid reſolutions, as requires returns of the perſons attending militia duties on muſter days, be reſcinded.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for granting to the corporation of the Miniſters, Veſtrymen and Church* "*Wardens of the* German *Lutheran congregation in and near the city of* Phi- "ladelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for* "*endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation;*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land-Officers to iſſue relocating warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for the third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Henry Cleland Baker, Joſeph Richard Robeſon, Benjamin Burton *and* Robert Hunter, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for the third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for erecting part of *Bedford* county into a ſeparate county," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for the third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation of* Tredyffrin *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend for a limited time the collection of all militia fines incurred under laws paſſed before the twenty-ſecond day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Piper,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William M'Pherſon,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Richard Thomas,*
12 *Mark Wilcox,*
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *Caleb James,*
15 *Richard Downing,* jun.
16 *James Clemſon,*
17 *John Hopkins,*
18 *James Cunningham,*

YEAS.

19 *Jacob Erb,*
20 *Henry Dering,*
21 *David M'Clellan,*
22 *Thomas Lilley,*
23 *Henry Tyſon,*
24 *Joſeph Reed,*
25 *Jacob Saylor,*
26 *John White,*
27 *John Irwin,*
28 *William Todd,*
29 *John Nevil,*
30 *James Johnſon,*
31 *Robert Lollar,*
32 *Jacob Reiff,*
33 *Jonathan Roberts,*
34 *Obadiah Gore,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*

NAYS.

3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*

NAYS.

5 *Joſeph Sands,*
6 *John Ludwig,*
7 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
8 *Peter Ealer,*
9 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
10 *John Piper,*
11 *James Barr,*
12 *James Marſhall,*

NAYS.

13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Gilchreeſt,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *James M'Lene,*
18 *Adam Orth,*
19 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion,

Reſolved, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Downing,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council upon the ſubject of militia fines, and to report a plan for aſcertaining the neceſſary exonerations from ſuch fines, and doing juſtice in the premiſes.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 19, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Samuel Maclay, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Northumberland,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A memorial from the Honorable *William Irwin* and *James R. Reid,* in behalf of themſelves and the Honorable *John Armſtrong,* jun. was read, ſetting forth inconveniences incurred by them in conſequence of the depreciated ſtate of the paper currency, in which their wages for their ſervices have been paid them, and praying redreſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallandingen* and *Andrew Swearingen,* was read, ſetting forth, that during the late war they employed Captain *Thomas Bays* to raiſe a company of volunteers, for the protection of the frontier inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*; that Captain *Bays,* upon application to the officers of government, being refuſed a ſettlement of his accounts, commenced a ſuit, obtained judgment for the amount, being *two hundred and fifty-five pounds,* and execution has been awarded againſt them for the ſaid ſum; and praying this Houſe to direct payment of the ſaid ſum of money; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of claims, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Irwin* be added to the committee appointed *November* 13th, on that part of the meſſage which relates to proviſion being made by law for the appointment of perſons to perform the duties of Sheriffs, in the caſes of conteſted elections.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Treaſurer of this commonwealth.

The committee appointed *November* 13th, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting a review of the road weſtward of the town of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petition of *Jeremiah Fiſher,* in behalf of himſelf and others, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of ſaid petition.

Ordered, That Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee read *November* 14th, on the petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that Mr. *Tyſon* and Mr. *Ludwig* be added to the committee.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain* " *perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the* " *county of* Luzerne," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for granting to the corporation of the miniſters, veſtrymen and church wardens of the* German *Lutheran congregation in* " *and near the city of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain* " *landst herein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of* " *the ſaid congregation,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for the third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend for a limited time the collection of* " *all militia fines incurred under laws paſſed before the twenty-ſecond day of* " March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Ordered, That two hundred copies of the ſaid act be printed, and one hundred of the ſaid copies be delivered to the Comptroller-General, to be by him immediately tranſmitted to the Lieutenants of the reſpective counties within this commonwealth.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Johnſon,* be a committee, to viſit the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, and make report.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday,

Thurſday, November 20, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon,* praying *Aughwick* creek may be declared a public highway, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 12th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Daviſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Dublin* and *Shirley,* in the county of *Huntingdon,* praying *Aughwick* creek may not be declared a public highway, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 26th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſeveral petitions for and againſt the meaſure, on the files of the late Houſe, be read; and the ſame being read, they were referred, with the petitions now preſented, to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Daviſon,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Benjamin Mevey* was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1786 he purchaſed, from a certain *John Hull,* a tract of 233 acres of land, ſituated in the townſhip of *Robinſon,* and county of *Waſhington,* and paid the full conſideration money; that by ſome miſmanagement in reſpect to laying certain warrants of ſurvey on certain lands, your petitioner's title to the above mentioned tract of land is rendered defective; that he hath made application to the Orphans Court of *Waſhington* county for relief in the premiſes, which court hath referred him to the Legiſlature; therefore praying redreſs may be afforded him by an act of General Aſſembly. And divers documents in ſupport of facts ſet forth in ſaid petition were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the coachmakers, and other mechanics employed in the various branches of the manufacture, was read, praying that ſo much of the act, entituled "*An Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein mentioned, for the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" as impoſes a tax upon all pleaſurable carriages within this ſtate, may be repealed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Johnſon,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Samuel Delap,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* book-ſeller, was read, praying an act may be paſſed authoriſing the free ſale of books; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Kennedy,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

A petition from 996 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* reſiding on the weſt ſide of the river *Suſquehanna,* was read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, was read, requeſting to be reappointed Treaſurer of this State.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, November 20th,* 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to incloſe to you, for the information of the Legiſlature, a letter, which Council received yeſterday from the Attorney-General, dated *Wilkeſbarre, November* 8th, 1788.

I am, SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Preſident.*

The Hon. RICHARD PETERS, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the letter incloſed was alſo read.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gore,*

That a committee be appointed to conſider of a law for the relief of inſolvent debtors, who are not citizens of this ſtate.

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

The memorial of the Honorable *William Irwine* and *James R. Reid,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *Hoge,* to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the memorial and petition of the people called Quakers, read *November* 7th, as follows, *viz.*

To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

The MEMORIAL and PETITION of the people called QUAKERS, in the city of *Philadelphia,*

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT at the early ſettlement of *Pennſylvania,* the preſervation of the morals of the inhabitants was conſidered by the legiſlature eſſential to the well-being and proſperity of the community, and many wiſe laws were enacted for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality, which appeared to them likely to be greatly promoted by ſtage-entertainments, wherever they were permitted: And accordingly the Aſſemblies paſſed divers acts, from time to time, to prohibit them, although diſallowed by the rulers in *Great-Britain,* who then exerciſed a controul over the legiſlature here; their exceptions being founded on maxims of mere human policy, rather than virtuous conſiderations.—Neverthelеſs, the virtue of the people for a conſiderable time manifeſted ſuch an abhorrence of thoſe inſnaring diverſions, that the ſtage actors did not find it their intereſt to proſecute their corrupting employment—And ſince the late revolution, the legiſlature, actuated by laudable motives, enacted the law, entituled "*An Act for the prevention of vice "and immorality, and unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and "diſſipa-*

"*diſſipation,*" paſſed in 1786 (for a repeal of which a petition was preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly by *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry*, in behalf of themſelves and other Comedians) notwithſtanding which, in defiance of its authority, regardleſs of the penalties, and in contempt of government, thoſe deluſive ſcenes have in the courſe of laſt ſummer been exhibited, and, as appears by public advertiſements, are of late renewed.

Other perſons alſo, promoters of licentiouſneſs, at the ſame time continued amuſements among the people of the like pernicious tendency. Whereupon, affected with concern that theſe exhibitions ſhould be revived at any time, but more eſpecially when a ſtagnation of commerce, a ſcarcity of money, and a great appearance of a failure of the ſtaple of this country, from the alarming deſtruction of our wheat by an unuſual inſect, require a ſerious attention to an improvement in every moral and religious duty, an addreſs was preſented to the Executive Council on the eighteenth day of the ſeventh month laſt (a copy whereof is alſo herewith offered to your conſideration) ſetting forth our juſt apprehenſions reſpecting ſuch entertainments, which are not founded on mere ſpeculative opinion; it being not only the ſenſe of divers perſons conſpicuous for wiſdom and virtue, reſulting from their religious obſervation and experience, but ſupported by incontrovertible fact.—Sir *John Hawkins*, ſpeaking of the pernicious effects of plays, ſays, "Upon "ſetting up or opening of a certain theatre, its contiguity to the city ſoon "made it a place of great reſort, and what was apprehended from the adver-"tiſement of plays to be exhibited in that quarter of the town ſoon fol-"lowed; the adjacent houſes became taverns in *name*, but in truth they "were houſes of lewd reſort, and the former occupiers of them, uſeful ma-"nufacturers and induſtrious artificers, were driven to ſeek elſewhere for a "reſidence." And he further remarks, "that the merchants of *London*, "then a grave ſagacious body of men, found the theatre was a temptation "to idleneſs and to pleaſure that their clerks could not reſiſt; they regretted "to ſee the corruptions of *Covent Garden* extended, and the ſeats of induſtry "hold forth allurements to vice and debauchery." And again he obſerves, "that although of plays it is ſaid, that they teach morality, and of the "ſtage, that it is the mirror of human life; theſe aſſertions are mere decla-"mation, and have no foundation in truth or experience; on the contrary, a "play-houſe, and the regions about it, are the very hot-beds of vice; how "elſe comes it to paſs, that no ſooner is a play-houſe opened in any part "of the kingdom, than it becomes ſurrounded with an halo (or circle) "of brothels. Of this truth the neighbourhood of the place I am now "ſpeaking of has had experience; one pariſh alone adjacent thereto hav-"ing, to my knowledge, expended the ſum of 1300l. in proſecutions, for "the purpoſe of removing thoſe inhabitants whom the play-houſe had "drawn thither."

Such is the account related by this author of the unhappy and deſtructive effects of theſe vain recreations. How conſiſtent ſuch places of diſſipation and extravagance are with the profeſſion of chriſtianity, and our preſent circumſtances, requires no great diſcernment to perceive.

And as the moral, political and religious intereſt of the community are, unitedly, the great object of legiſlative attention, when it becomes evident, by the loud calls of public calamity, that frugality and induſtry are eſſential to the well-being of the people; that vice is gaining ground, and religion in danger of being openly the ſubject of ridicule; and the ſerious, important,

ant, and ſelf-denying precepts of the goſpel ſet at nought, by the introduction of thoſe ſeminaries of lewdneſs and irreligion;—it then becomes the virtuous part of the people, of every denomination, to expreſs their feelings with energy, and avow their diſapprobation of proceedings ſo injurious.

Influenced by a ſenſe of duty and ſincere regard for the youth and others of the preſent day, we are engaged to requeſt your ſerious attention to the premiſes, and that you may reject the application of the ſaid *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry*, however ſupported by plauſible, though fallacious, pretenſions.

And we earneſtly deſire the ſame laudable zeal, which influenced your predeceſſors in their virtuous endeavours to preſerve the morals of the people from depravity, may induce you to reject an offer, which propoſes to raiſe a revenue by ſo corrupt a practice, at the riſque of the virtue, happineſs, and ſolid reputation of the people.

And, laſtly, that you will make ſuch further proviſion for the due execution of the law before mentioned, as alſo to prevent jugglers, mountebanks, rope-dancers, and other immoral and irreligious entertainments, as under the direction of beſt wiſdom you may ſee meet.

Signed, on behalf of the ſaid people called Quakers, Philadelphia, *eleventh month ſixth, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight, by*

Iſaac Zane,
Owen Jones,
James Pemberton,
Caleb Carmalt,
John Head,
Charles Weſt,
David Bacon,
John Parriſh,
Joſhua Howell,
Samuel Lewis,
John Drinker,
Joſeph Bringhurſt,
Nicholas Waln,
Daniel Drinker,
Owen Biddle,
Benedict Dorſey,
William Clifton,
Samuel Hopkins,
John Elliott, jun.
Thomas Morris,
John James,
Jonathan Evans, jun.

Whereupon the memorial and petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry*, read *November* 12th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL and PETITION of LEWIS HALLAM and JOHN HENRY, on behalf of themſelves and others, the Comedians, commonly called the *American Company*,

Humbly ſheweth,

THAT your petitioners, ſupported and recommended by a numerous and reſpectable liſt of citizens, have heretofore addreſſed the honorable legiſlature of *Pennſylvania*, ſoliciting a repeal of that part of an act of Aſſembly which prohibits dramatic entertainments;

That on a renewal of the application of your petitioners to the late honorable Houſe, their prayer was referred to a committee, who, after ſolemn deliberation upon the ſubject, made a report in the following words:——

" The committee on the petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry* beg " leave to report——

" That they would not have it underſtood, that in the preſent report, " which will be favorable to the petitioners, they are in the leaſt influenced " by any particular or perſonal wiſh for the eſtabliſhment of a theatre. But " a queſtion of ſuch importance it is their duty to examine with care, as " it is the part of integrity to propoſe their genuine ſentiments upon it, " even ſhould it be foreſeen that they will differ from thoſe entertained by " many perſons truly eſtimable for their moral and religious virtues.

" The committee have had to withſtand the force of a very ſerious and " important objection made to the ſtage, that it has ever been a great corrupter of the public morals; but this poſition, as one of a ſpeculative " nature, is not capable of compleat demonſtration—it is even doubted " whether it is to be maintained. The better opinion ſeems to be, that " dramatic pieces, in common with other works of taſte and ſentiment, tend " to the general refinement of manners, and to the poliſh of ſociety; than " which nothing can be more favorable to the growth of the virtues.

" In this regard it may be ſaid, that men, of appearance the fartheſt removed from the influence of the ſtage, have obligations to it, which they " will neither perceive nor own.

" But your committee have been led to contemplate the ſtage as the great " mark of genius, and, as ſuch, a natural and neceſſary concomitant of our " independence. We have caſt off a foreign yoke in government, but ſhall " ſtill be dependent for thoſe productions of the mind which do moſt " honor to human nature, until we can afford due protection and encouragement to every ſpecies of our own literature.

" In theſe ſentiments your committee offer the following reſolution:

" *Reſolved*, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to " licence a theatre in or near the city of *Philadelphia*, for dramatic repreſentations."

But owing, as your petitioners believe, to the multiplicity of buſineſs which engaged the attention of the late General Aſſembly, in their laſt ſeſſion, no proceedings were had upon the above report.

Your petitioners, therefore, pray this honorable Houſe to take the ſame into your favorable conſideration; and that you will be pleaſed to grant a licence, agreeably to the report of the foregoing reſolution, under ſuch regulations and reſtrictions as in your wiſdom you ſhall think meet and proper.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, ſhall ever pray, &c.

LEWIS HALLAM,
JOHN HENRY.

Philadelphia, November 9th, 1788.

It was then moved by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry*.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to poſtpone the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Orth*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *John Salter*,
4 *Richard Thomas*,
5 *James Moore*,
6 *John M'Dowell*,
7 *Caleb James*,
8 *John Hopkins*,
9 *Thomas Lilley*,
10 *Peter Trexler*, jun.

YEAS.

11 *Peter Ealer*,
12 *Samuel Maclay*,
13 *John White*,
14 *John Irwin*,
15 *William Todd*,
16 *John Nevil*,
17 *Peter Richards*,
18 *Jacob Miley*,
19 *John Carſon*,
20 *Obadiah Gore*.

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William M'Pherſon*,
4 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
5 *John Chapman*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *Mark Wilcox*,
9 *Richard Downing*, jun.
10 *James Clemſon*,
11 *James Cunningham*,
12 *Jacob Erb*,
13 *Henry Dering*,
14 *David M'Clellan*,
15 *Henry Tyſon*,
16 *Joſeph Reed*,
17 *David Mitchell*,
18 *Thomas Kennedy*,
19 *Thomas Beale*,

NAYS.

20 *Jonathan Hoge*,
21 *Joſeph Sands*,
22 *John Ludwig*,
23 *Jacob Saylor*,
24 *John Piper*,
25 *James Barr*,
26 *James Marſhall*,
27 *James Alliſon*,
28 *Alexander Wright*,
29 *John Gilchreeſt*,
30 *Theophilus Philips*,
31 *James M'Lene*,
32 *James Johnſon*,
33 *Robert Lollar*,
34 *Jacob Reiff*,
35 *Jonathan Roberts*,
36 *Adam Orth*,
37 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was carried in the negative.

It was then, on motion,

Ordered, That the ſaid *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry* have leave to withdraw their petition.

The committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petition of *Robert Leſlie*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 18th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county reſpecting the poor laws, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a poor-houſe in *Cheſter* county.

Ordered, That the members from *Cheſter* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of the Juſtices of the Peace of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, read *November* 14th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal the law which ſuſpends the powers of the Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county, ſo that they may proceed at their diſcretion to apply the remaining part of the money levied and collected, towards the purpoſes for which it was granted.

Ordered, That the members from *Weſtmoreland* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of the Truſtees of *Waſhington* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to eſtabliſh a volunteer company of artillery in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *November* 21, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A repreſentation from the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, Eſquire, Chief Juſtice, and the Honorable *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquire, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, was read, ſetting forth, that their ſalaries are paid them in depreciated paper money, which they conceive to be contrary to the conſtitution, wherein it is declared, that in order to inſure the independence of their ſituation, their ſalaries ſhould be fixed, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant them relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers members of the *German* Lutheran congregation of *St. Peter*'s church, in the townſhip of *Pikeland*, and county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

A petition from the *German* Lutheran congregation of *Zion* church, in the townſhip of *Pikeland*, and county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

A petition from *George Philip Gruber*, late a ſoldier in the *German* battalion, in the ſervice of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that he entered into the ſervice in the year 1777, and continued therein until 1780, that he has not received the arrearages and the depreciation due on his pay, and praying the Houſe to direct payment thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

A memorial from the committee of the manufacturing fund of the *Pennſylvania* Society, for promoting manufactures and uſeful arts, was read, ſetting forth, that they have at length, by actual experiments, aſcertained the practicability of carrying on the manufacture of divers kinds of cotton goods to great advantage, and ſtating the advantages which may be derived by the introduction of ſome of the moſt improved machines now uſed in *Great-Britain*; that an artiſt, ſkilled in conſtructing thoſe machines, is now in this city, who has offered his ſervices, but the limited ſtate of their funds is inſufficient to avail themſelves of this important advantage; therefore praying the aid of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the people called Quakers, members of the weſtern quarterly meeting held in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying they may be exonerated from the payment of all militia fines, on account of their religious perſuaſion.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims, to whom were referred the petitions of *Frances Ramie*, *Martin Jugiez* and *George Rutter*, *Chriſtian Helm*, and *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the enſuing year, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

The report on the petition of *Robert Leſlie*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes expreſſed in the prayer of the petition of *Robert Leſlie*, he having previouſly regiſtered in the Prothonotary's office of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, an accurate deſcription of the improvements mentioned in his ſaid petition, ſo that the ſame may be identified.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Alliſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal an act, entituled* "An Act to ſuſpend the powers of the "Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a volunteer company of artillery* "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates* "*within this commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the college of phyſicians of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial and petition of the committee of the manufacturing fund of the *Pennſylvania* ſociety, for promoting manufactures and uſeful arts, read this forenoon, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report,——

That they have received of *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of one million three hundred and ninety-one thouſand two hundred and ninety-one dollars, in bills of credit emitted by a reſolution of Congreſs of the eighteenth day of *March,* 1780, and by the act of General Aſſembly of the firſt day of *June,* 1780, all which bills they have examined, counted, burned and deſtroyed, according to law.

The report on that part of the meſſage reſpecting a review of the road weſtward of the town of *Bedford,* read *November* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and requeſted to appoint one or more ſuitable perſons to view and mark out a road betwen *Bedford* and *Pittſburgh,* by the neareſt courſes and moſt practicable ground, and that an eſtimate of the expence of laying out and making ſuch road be laid before the General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed to draw upon the State Treaſurer for the ſums neceſſary to defray the expences of viewing and marking the ſaid road, to be paid out of the unappropriated revenues, and that this Houſe will make proviſion by law for ſuch payment.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to " ſuſpend the powers of the Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation wor-* " *ſhipping at the church called St.* Peter'*s, in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county* " *of* Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation wor-* " *ſhipping at the church called* Zion, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* " Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for aſcertaining the fineneſs of gold and ſilver, and preventing frauds* " *and*

“ *and abuſes in manufactories made thereof,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gore*,

To take up for a ſecond reading the bill, entituled “ *An Act for quieting* “ *the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain perſons, called* “ Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* “ Luzerne.”

It was then moved by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Orth*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid motion.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 22, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſetting forth, that they have formed themſelves into an aſſociation, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a library at *Newtown*, in the county of *Bucks*, and praying leave to bring in a bill to incorporate them, by the name of the *Newtown Library Company*, of the county of *Bucks*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from twenty-five inhabitants of the townſhip of *Salem*, in the county of *Luzerne*, was read, praying they may not be diveſted of their poſſeſſions, and their property veſted in the perſons, commonly called *Connecticut Claimants*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the college of phyſicians of the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of the Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds*, to pay the contingent expences of the Houſe, and that he account therefor with the committee of accounts.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled “ *A* “ *Supplement to the act, entituled* “ An Act to provide for the payment of the “ principal and intereſt of ſuch of the bills, emitted purſuant to reſolution of “ Congreſs of the eighteenth day of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred “ and eighty, and an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate of *June* the firſt, one “ thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the “ thirty-firſt day of *December*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix,” which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt two o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the coachmakers, and other mechanics employed in the various branches of that manufacture, was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of the coachmakers, *&c.* read *November* 20th; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Johnſon,* to report thereon.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

In COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, November 22d,* 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to you a letter, which Council received this morning, dated at *Fort Harmar, November* 3d, 1788, from *Richard Butler* and *John Gibſon,* Eſquires, Commiſſioners for purchaſing of the *Indians* the tract of country lying on *Lake Erie,* and ceded to this ſtate by the United States, together with a liſt of goods immediately wanted for that purpoſe.

Council wiſh to be informed if any fund hath been provided by the Legiſlature, for the payment of ſuch orders as they may think proper to draw on the State Treaſurer, for the purpoſe of making the purchaſe of the *Indians* of the tract above mentioned, and in conformity with the reſolve of the General Aſſembly of the thirteenth of *September,* 1788.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, Preſident.

To the Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers encloſed were alſo read.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd,* for *twenty-five pounds,* for his extra ſervices during the receſs of the houſe.

In favor of *Jacob Shallus,* for *twenty-five pounds,* for his extra ſervices.

In favor of *James Martin,* Serjeant at Arms, for *ten pounds,* for his extra attendance.

In favor of *Joſeph Fry,* Door-keeper, for *ten pounds,* for his extra attendance.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, for the ſum of *ninety-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings,* in favor of *Hall* and *Sellers,* in full of their account for printing the minutes of the third ſeſſion of the Twelfth General Aſſembly.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to enable ſuch perſons within this ſtate, who are entitled to vote in the election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Houſe of Repreſentatives in the Congreſs of the United States, and who ſhall be neceſſarily out of their reſpective diſtricts at the enſuing election, to give their votes in the ſeveral places where public buſineſs ſhall require their attendance.*

II. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend for a limited time the collection of all militia fines incurred under laws paſſed before the twenty-ſecond day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight.*

III. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation of* Tredyffrin *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

IV. *An* ACT *for the relief of* Henry Cleland Baker, Joſeph Richard Robeſon, Benjamin Burton *and* Robert Hunter, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia.

V. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to provide
" for the payment of the principal and intereſt of ſuch of the bills, emitted
" purſuant to reſolution of Congreſs of the eighteenth day of *March,* one
" thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and an act of the Legiſlature of this
" ſtate of *June* the firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall
" remain unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of *December,* one thouſand ſeven
" hundred and eighty-ſix."

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

It was moved by Mr. *Trexler* and Mr. *Ihrie,*

That this Houſe adjourn until *Tueſday,* the third day of *February* next.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adjourn until that day?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William M'Pherſon,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *Valentine Upp,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*

YEAS.

10 *Mark Wilcox,*
11 *Caleb James,*
12 *Richard Downing,* jun.
13 *James Clemſon,*
14 *James Cunningham,*
15 *Henry Dering,*
16 *David M'Clellan,*
17 *Thomas Lilley,*
18 *Henry Tyſon,*

YEAS.

19 *Joſeph Reed,*
20 *David Mitchell,*
21 *Joſeph Sands,*
22 *John Ludwig,*
23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Peter Ealer,*
25 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
26 *Jacob Saylor,*
27 *John Irvine,*
28 *William Todd,*
29 *James Marſhall,*

YEAS.

30 *James Alliſon,*
31 *Theophilus Philips,*
32 *Robert Lollar,*
33 *Jacob Reiff,*
34 *Peter Richards,*
35 *Jonathan Roberts,*
36 *Adam Orth,*
37 *John Carſon,*
38 *Obadiah Gore,*
39 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Kennedy,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*
3 *Jonathan Hoge,*
4 *John Piper,*
5 *Samuel Maclay,*

NAYS.

6 *James Barr,*
7 *John Gilchreeſt,*
8 *James M'Lene,*
9 *James Johnſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative,

And the Houſe adjourned accordingly.

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Clerk*
of the General Aſſembly.

MINUTES

OF THE THIRTEENTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

IN THEIR

SECOND SESSION,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday*, the Third Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine.

Tueſday, *February* 3, 1789. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of Members, met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *February* 4, 1789. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of Members, met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 5, 1789. A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

George Logan, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Philadelphia,* and *Alexander Lowrey,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Philips* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

A petition from the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, in the borough of *Carliſle,* was read, ſetting forth, that the preſent productive funds of the ſaid ſeminary are inſufficient by upwards of *two hundred pounds per annum* to pay the ſalaries of the profeſſors, and other neceſſary incidental expences, and that unleſs the legiſlature will extend their bounty and foſtering care to this inſtitution, they are apprehenſive the many advantages to be derived by diffuſing uſeful knowledge to the riſing generation will be fruſtrated, and praying this Houſe to grant them ſome relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hoge,* to report thereon.

A memorial from the wardens of the port of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that by an act paſſed the 4th day of *October* laſt, entituled "*An Act* "*for eſtabliſhing a board of wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for* "*other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" it was enacted that all certificates heretofore granted to pilots ſhould be in force for one month, and no longer, and that all perſons not poſſeſſing legal certificates, and navigating veſſels to or from the port of *Philadelphia,* ſhould pay into the hands of the Tonnage-Officer, a ſum equal to one fourth part of the pilotage of ſaid veſſel; that for want of ſufficient time being allowed, a number of perſons heretofore poſſeſſing certificates as pilots were ſubjected to a loſs of one fourth part of their earnings until their certificates were renewed, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

A petition from *Robert Beatty,* late a collector of public taxes in the townſhip of *Shippenſburg,* and county of *Cumberland,* and now confined in the gaol of the ſaid county on account of ſums due for taxes collected and received by him, ſetting forth his incapacity to make payment, was read, praying to be releaſed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Cumberland,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney in fact of *James Rumſey,* was read, referring to his memorial read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 4th laſt, and praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him, his executors, adminiſtrators and aſſigns, for a term of years, the excluſive right of making, conſtructing, uſing and vending the ſeveral machines, inventions,

tions, engines and devices, by him or in his name defined and ſpecified, and filed or to be filed on record before the paſſing of ſuch law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed this morning, to inform Council that the Houſe being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported that they had performed the ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would have ſome buſineſs to lay before the Houſe to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Ordered, That *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney of *James Rumſey,* have leave to withdraw his petition read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 4th laſt.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the* Newtown *Library Company in* Bucks *county,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 6, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 600 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Greenwood, Fermanagh, Milford, Lack, Wayne, Derry* and *Armagh,* in the county of *Cumberland,* were read, praying that the bill under conſideration of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of the county of* " Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" may be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Benjamin Moore,* late a collector of public taxes in the townſhip of *Lebanon,* and county of *Dauphin,* and now confined in the gaol of the ſaid county on account of ſums due for taxes collected and received by him, was read, ſetting forth his incapacity to make payment, and praying to be releaſed from confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas M'Fall,* late a ſoldier in the fifth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that on the day of the taking of *Fort Waſhington* he received a wound in his leg, and was made a priſoner; that from the unhealed ſtate of his leg he is frequently diſabled from procuring a livelihood for himſelf and family, and praying this Houſe to grant him ſome relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 1900 citizens and freemen of this commonwealth were read, praying that ſo much of the act, entituled " *An Act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly* " *ſports and diſſipation,*" as reſtrains a Theatre in or near the city of *Philadelphia* for dramatic repreſentations, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *Robinſon* be added to the committee apppointed *November* 3d laſt, to examine the laws and minutes of the Houſe, prepare them for publication, and correct them at the preſs.

A member, agreeably to leave given, read in his place a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act more effectually to prevent "unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to "regulate the exportation of flax-ſeed, butter, and biſcuit in kegs," and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining the fineneſs of gold and ſilver,* "*and preventing frauds and abuſes in manufactories made thereof,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the* Newtown *Library Com-* "*pany in* Bucks *county,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran* "*congregation worſhipping at the church called* Zion, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in* "*the county of* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Secretary of Council attending at the door, was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

IN purſuance of the act of Aſſembly, paſſed the 4th day of *October* laſt, *Frederick Auguſtus Muhlenberg, Henry Wynkoop, Thomas Hartley, George Clymer, Thomas Fitzſimons, Thomas Scott, Peter Muhlenberg,* and *Daniel Heiſter,* have been duly elected to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States; and *Edward Hand, George Gibſon, John Arndt, Collinſon Read, Lawrence Keene, James Wilſon, James O'Harra, David Grier, Samuel Potts,* and *Alexander Graydon,* have been duly choſen as Electors, in behalf of this ſtate, to ballot for a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.

No ſpecific fund has been aſſigned by law for payment of the allowances granted to diſabled penſioners.—The Treaſurer has hitherto ſatisfied ſuch claims out of the unappropriated funds of the ſtate, but the immediate charges againſt thoſe funds have of late ſo greatly accumulated, that it is found improper to continue the additional payments to the penſioners; more eſpecially as a diminution of the ſaid funds will neceſſarily be produced by the operation of the new government. If, therefore, it is intended, that the allowances to the corps of invalids and to other penſioners of the ſtate ſhall be continued, it will be neceſſary to make proviſion by law for thoſe purpoſes.

The difficulties which frequently occur from the preſent confuſed ſtate of our laws render, in our opinion, a reviſion and arrangement of the acts of

General Aſſembly highly proper.—Alterations are often made by acts, whoſe titles bear no relation to the act which is altered. Some acts have become obſolete, from the change or ceſſation of their objects, and many have expired by their own limitations,—while the conſtant multiplication of ſupplements has greatly increaſed the ſize and perplexity of our code of laws. We are therefore of opinion, that the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange them into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem will be of public utility.

We are informed that many induſtrious inhabitants, who are conſcienciouſly oppoſed to the teſt law, and who conſider it as creating an invidious and improper diſtinction between citizen and citizen, have left the ſtate, and that many others of the ſame opinion are preparing to follow them. While our neighbours are giving every encouragement to ſettlers within their boundaries, the legiſlature of *Pennſylvania* will no doubt endeavour to remove cauſes of uneaſineſs on the part of her citizens, ſo far, at leaſt, as is conſiſtent with the ſecurity and reputation of the ſtate.

As the act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands, which were located before the declaration of independency,*" will expire on the tenth day of *April* next, we recommend the extenſion of that law in the preſent ſeſſion; and ſubmit to the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, the expediency of limiting the time for receiving in the Land-Office certificates which have not been given for original debts of the ſtate.

The improvement of the public roads being under the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, the late purchaſe of land on the ſouth ſide of *Lake Erie* will naturally call their attention to that quarter. A communication between *Preſque-Iſle* (which is included in that purchaſe) and the city of *Philadelphia*, will, in our opinion, prove of the greateſt utility to the public. That communication may be beſt effected by joining the heads of the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna* with the ſources of the *Allegany* river, between which, it is ſaid, there is a ſhort portage. The moſt convenient portage from the *Suſquehanna* to the *Schuylkill* has been thought, by perſons of credit and information, to be between the *Swatara* and *Tulpehoccon*.

We are informed that the river *Delaware*, at a very moderate expence, may be made navigable to the northern extremity of *Pennſylvania*, by which means an extenſive country, at this time containing many valuable ſettlements, and hitherto of little uſe to the ſtate, will be brought to communicate with the capital, and afford a conſiderable ſupply of thoſe articles which form the principal ſtaples of *Pennſylvania*.

Several petitions for the continuation of the *Frankſtown* road to *Philadelphia*, by the way of *Sunbury* and *Reading*, are herewith tranſmitted. Many reſpectable citizens wiſh for a continuation of the ſame road by *Huntingdon*, and down *Juniata*. Council are of opinion, that the roads propoſed would be beneficial to the public.

The navigation of the *Lehigh*, and the roads leading from thence to *Neſcopeck* and *Wyoming*, on the eaſt branch of *Suſquehanna*, are alſo objects of conſiderable conſequence to the trade of the ſtate.

A letter from his Excellency *Beverly Randolph*, Eſquire, incloſing a letter from the Speakers of the Senate and General Aſſembly of the ſtate of *Virginia*,

nia, with a copy of the application agreed to by the General Aſſembly to be made to the Congreſs of the United States—A letter from *Henry Knox,* Eſquire, Secretary at war, with the act of Congreſs of the 12th of *Auguſt* laſt, to which it refers.—The petition of *Ebenezer Frothingham,* in behalf of himſelf and other officers.—A repreſentation from the auctioneers of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia,* relative to a diminution of a branch of the public revenue.—The report of a committee of Council, appointed to viſit the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia.*—A letter from *Thomas Scott,* Eſquire, lately elected a repreſentative of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, containing his reſignation.—And the Comptroller-General's report of the annual expence of the corps of invalids, excluſive of their penſions, with an eſtimate of the expence of performing the ſervices required of that corps by watchmen, under the direction of the city wardens, are herewith tranſmitted.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, February 6th, 1789.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 7, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Francis Mentges* was read, ſetting forth, that in *April,* 1786, he was appointed, by the Supreme Executive Council, Inſpector-General of the militia of this ſtate, the duties of which he entered upon and exerciſed for a long time, and was allowed by the laſt Houſe of Aſſembly the ſum of *one hundred pounds;* that in performing the duties of his office, he was neceſſarily obliged to undertake ſeveral journies at his own coſt and charge, and as he hath not received an adequate compenſation, he prays this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant him relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from divers owners and occupiers of banked meadow grounds on the rivers *Delaware* and *Schuylkill,* in the vicinity of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that while the ſaid meadow grounds were productive the owners were among the foremoſt to diſcharge their taxes, and continued their payments even after their produce would not defray their expence. That repeated ſtorms and inundations, theretofore unknown, have now rendered their meadows uſeleſs to them, and diſabled many of their owners from paying their taxes, either to the ſtate, or thoſe laid for repairs. That all are greatly injured and many ruined by theſe calamitous circumſtances. That unleſs they are eaſed of the great burthens now laid on this ſpecies of property (which, though once valuable, is now reduced to a very low price) the owners will be totally unable to render their property uſeful to themſelves or the community, by which the benefits ariſing to the city from this kind of property in its vicinity, as well as to the ſtate from its produce, will be loſt, as it muſt lie neglected, from the general inability of the owners and occupiers, unleſs aſſiſted therein, to repair the great and uncommon damage and loſſes they have ſuſtained.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Wilſon*, of the ſtate of *Maryland*, was read, ſetting forth, that he is deſirous of removing to and becoming an inhabitant of this ſtate; that being poſſeſſed of a few negroes, whom he is unwilling to ſell, he cannot remove into this ſtate without the interference of the Legiſlature; therefore praying an act may be paſſed for permitting the regiſtering of ſaid negroes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Juſtices of the Peace, Grand Jury, and ſundry other of the inhabitants of *Franklin* county, was read, praying a ſum of money may be granted for opening and making a road from one *Hoſack*'s mill, in *Franklin* townſhip, *York* county, through *Black*'s gap, to a place called *Sharp*'s tavern, in *Franklin* county, about four miles from *Chamberſburgh*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage, which relates to penſioners and invalids, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects a reviſion and arrangement of the acts of General Aſſembly, and the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange them into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to a reviſion of the teſt law, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage which recommends an extenſion of the time for the payment of arrearages due for unpatented lands, and the expediency of limiting the time for receiving in the land-office certificates which have not been given for original debts of the ſtate, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Balliot*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Johnſon*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage which reſpects the improvement and continuation of the public roads, the opening a communication between the heads of the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna* with the ſources of the *Allegany*, between the waters of the *Swatara* and *Tulpehoccon*, and the navigation of the river *Delaware* to the northern extremity of the ſtate, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Dering*, Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Ihrie*, Mr. *Saylor*, Mr. *White*; Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *Marſhall*, Mr. *Philips*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Roberts*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Davidſon*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from *Henry Knox*, Eſquire, Secretary at War, and the act of Congreſs of the twelfth of *Auguſt* laſt, to which it refers, be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Broadhead* and Mr. *Piper*, with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *Ebenezer Frothingham* be referred to Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Broadhead*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the repreſentation of the Auctioneers of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *Hoge,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee of Council, appointed to viſit the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the Comptroller-General's report of the annual expence of the corps of invalids, excluſive of their penſions, with an eſtimate of the expence of performing the like ſervices by watchmen, under the direction of the City Wardens, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The letter from his Excellency *Beverly Randolph,* Eſquire, and the incloſures, were read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *December 2d,* 1788.

SIR,

I DO myſelf the honor to encloſe to your Excellency a letter from the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, encloſing a copy of the application agreed to by that honorable body to be made to the Congreſs of the United States, which I requeſt the favour of you to lay before the legiſlature of your ſtate as early as poſſible.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervant,
BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

VIRGINIA, *to wit:*

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FRIDAY, *the 20th November,* 1788.

RESOLVED,

THAT an application be made, in the name and on behalf of the legiſlature of this commonwealth, to the Congreſs of the United States, in the words following, to wit:

" The good people of this commonwealth, in Convention aſſembled, hav-
" ing ratified the conſtitution ſubmitted to their conſideration, this legiſla-
" ture has, in conformity to that act, and the reſolutions of the United
" States in Congreſs aſſembled, to them tranſmitted, thought proper to
" make the arrangements that were neceſſary for carrying it into effect.—
" Having thus ſhewn themſelves obedient to the voice of their conſtituents,
" all *America* will find, that ſo far as it depended on them, that plan of go-
" vernment will be carried into immediate operation. But the ſenſe of the
" people of *Virginia* would be but in part complied with, and but little re-
" garded, if we went no farther. In the very moment of adoption, and
" coeval with the ratification of the new plan of government, the general
" voice of the Convention of this ſtate pointed to objects no leſs intereſt-
" ing

“ ing to the people we repreſent, and equally entitled to our attention. At the
“ ſame time that, from motives of affection to our ſiſter ſtates, the Convention
“ yielded their aſſent to the ratification, they gave the moſt unequivocal
“ proofs that they dreaded its operation under the preſent form. In acceding
“ to the government under this impreſſion, painful muſt have been
“ the proſpect, had they not derived conſolation from a full expectation of its
“ imperfections being ſpeedily amended. In this reſource, therefore, they
“ placed their confidence—a confidence, that will continue to ſupport them,
“ whilſt they have reaſon to believe they have not calculated upon it in vain.
“ In making known to you the objections of the people of this commonwealth
“ to the new plan of government, we deem it unneceſſary to enter
“ into a particular detail of its defects, which they conſider as involving all
“ the great and unalienable rights of freemen: for their ſenſe on this ſubject,
“ we refer you to the proceedings of their late Convention, and the ſenſe of
“ the Houſe of Delegates, as expreſſed in their reſolutions of the 30th day of
“ *October*, 1788. We think proper however to declare, that in our opinion,
“ as thoſe objections were not founded in ſpeculative theory, but deduced
“ from principles which have been eſtabliſhed by the melancholy example
“ of other nations in different ages,—ſo they will never be removed, until
“ the cauſe itſelf ſhall ceaſe to exiſt. The ſooner therefore the public apprehenſions
“ are quieted, and the government is poſſeſſed of the confidence
“ of the people, the more ſalutary will be its operations, and the longer its
“ duration. The cauſe of amendments we conſider as a common cauſe;
“ and ſince conceſſions have been made from political motives, which we
“ conceive may endanger the republic, we truſt that a commendable
“ zeal will be ſhewn for obtaining thoſe proviſions, which experience has
“ taught us are neceſſary to ſecure from danger the unalienable rights
“ of human nature. The anxiety with which our countrymen preſs for
“ the accompliſhment of this important end will ill admit of delay. The
“ ſlow forms of congreſſional diſcuſſion and recommendation, if indeed
“ they ſhould ever agree to any change, would, we fear, be leſs certain of
“ ſucceſs. Happily for their wiſhes, the conſtitution hath preſented an
“ alternative, by admitting the ſubmiſſion to a convention of the ſtates.
“ To this therefore we reſort, as the ſource from whence they are to
“ derive relief from their preſent apprehenſions. We do therefore, in
“ behalf of our conſtituents, in the moſt earneſt and ſolemn manner, make
“ this application to Congreſs, that a Convention be immediately called, of
“ deputies from the ſeveral ſtates, with full power to take into their conſideration
“ the defects of this conſtitution that have been ſuggeſted by
“ the ſtate conventions, and report ſuch amendments thereto, as they ſhall
“ find beſt ſuited to promote our common intereſts, and ſecure to ourſelves,
“ and our lateſt poſterity, the great and unalienable rights of mankind.”

Signed, by order and on behalf of the General Aſſembly,

JOHN JONES, *S. S.*
THOMAS MATHEWS, *S. H. D.*

VIRGINIA, *to wit:*

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FRIDAY, *the 20th November*, 1788.

SIR,

THE freemen of this commonwealth, in Convention aſſembled, having, at the ſame time that they ratified the fœderal conſtitution, expreſſed a deſire that many parts which they conſidered as exceptionable ſhould be amended, the General Aſſembly, as well from a ſenſe of their duty, as a conviction of its defects, have thought proper to take the earlieſt meaſures in their power for the accompliſhment of this important object. They have accordingly agreed upon an application, to be preſented to the Congreſs ſo ſoon as it ſhall be aſſembled, requeſting that honorable body to call a convention of deputies from the ſeveral ſtates, to take the ſame into their conſideration, and report ſuch amendments as they ſhall find beſt calculated to anſwer the purpoſe. As we conceive that all the good people of the United States are equally intereſted in obtaining thoſe amendments that have been propoſed, we truſt that there will be an harmony in their ſentiments and meaſures upon this very intereſting ſubject. We herewith tranſmit to you a copy of this application, and take the liberty to ſubjoin our earneſt wiſhes that it may have your concurrence.

Signed, by order and on behalf of the General Aſſembly,

JOHN JONES, *S. S.*
THOMAS MATHEWS, *S. H. D.*

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Hoge*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Jonathan Hoge*,
5 *John Piper*,
6 *William Todd*,
7 *James Marſhall*,
8 *James Alliſon*,

YEAS.

9 *Alexander Wright*,
10 *John Gilchreeſt*,
11 *Theophilus Philips*,
12 *James M‘Lene*,
13 *James Johnſon*,
14 *Jacob Miley*,
15 *Adam Orth*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M‘Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.

NAYS.

10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Samuel Foulke*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *James Moore*,
16 *Mark Wilcox*,
17 *John M‘Dowell*,
18 *Caleb James*,

NAYS.
19 *Richard Downing*, jun.
20 *Alexander Lowrey*,
21 *James Clemſon*,
22 *John Hopkins*,
23 *James Cunningham*,
24 *Jacob Erb*,
25 *Thomas Lilley*,
26 *Joſeph Sands*,
27 *Daniel Broadhead*,
28 *Peter Trexler*, jun.

NAYS.
29 *Peter Ealer*,
30 *Conrad Ihrie*,
31 *Stephen Balliot*.
32 *Jacob Saylor*,
33 *John Nevil*,
34 *Jacob Reiff*,
35 *Robert Lollar*,
36 *Peter Richards*,
37 *Jonathan Roberts*,
38 *Obadiah Gore*.

So it was carried in the negative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the petition of *John Cart*, poſtponed *November* 4th laſt.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The petitions from 1900 citizens and freemen of this commonwealth, relative to the reſtraints on the theatre, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſaid petitions be referred to a committee?*”—It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed *November* 13th laſt, on that part of the meſſage from Council, which reſpects the recommendation of Congreſs concerning the importation of convicts into the ſtates from the *Britiſh* dominions, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act more “ effectually to prevent unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork “ for exportation, and to regulate the exportation of flax-ſeed, butter, and “ biſcuit in kegs,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, February 9, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Lytle*, of the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1774 he mortgaged the plantation whereon he now dwells to the Truſtees of the Loan-Office, for the ſum of *one hundred and twenty-four pounds*, and paid the annual inſtalments until the year 1778, when, by the incurſion of the *Indians*, he and his family were obliged to leave their habitations, and fly for ſafety to the interior parts of the ſtate; that afterwards, in 1779, he was taken priſoner by a body of *Britiſh* and *Indians*, and remained in captivity nearly four years; that during theſe periods he was incapacitated from making any further payments, and ſtating his inability

ability at this time; therefore praying he may be exonerated from the payment thereof, or ſuch part as this Houſe may judge proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Lehman*, collector of taxes within the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of the ſum of *ninety-eight pounds fifteen ſhillings and three pence*, received by him in payment of taxes, and praying the amount thereof may be placed to his credit, in the ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, remonſtrating againſt the prayer of the petition of *Joſeph Barnes*, attorney in fact of *James Rumſey*, read *February* 5th; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the petition of *Joſeph Barnes*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Downing*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Nevil*, to report thereon.

A petition from the commiſſioners of the county of *Northumberland* was read, ſetting forth, that the ſum of *eight hundred pounds* was granted in the year 1774, by an act of the General Aſſembly, for the purpoſe of erecting and building a court-houſe and priſon within the ſaid county; that from the preſent inability of the inhabitants of ſaid county, they conceive them unable to diſcharge the aforeſaid debt; therefore praying they may be exonerated from the payment thereof, as well as a proportionable part of the quota aſſeſſed upon the ſaid inhabitants by the act, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*," which they apprehend ought to be aſſeſſed and levied upon the inhabitants and taxable property within the county of *Luzerne*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of 996 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, read *November* 20th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Ihrie*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Philips*, to report thereon.

The petition of 600 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Greenwood*, *Fermanagh*, *Milford*, *Lack*, *Wayne*, *Derry* and *Armagh*, in the county of *Cumberland*, read *February* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Ihrie*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Philips*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Benjamin Moore*, read *February* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Marſhall*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers owners and occupiers of banked meadow grounds on the rivers *Delaware* and *Schuylkill*, in the vicinity of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas M'Fall*, read *February* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Wilſon*, read *February* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"

It was carried in the negative. Whereupon,

On motion,

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The repreſentation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, read *November* 21ſt laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

Tranſcripts of the aſſeſſments levied upon the taxable property and perſons within the city and county of *Philadelphia* were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 7th, on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the teſt law, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 7th, on the repreſentation of the auctioneers of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *February* 7th, on that part of the meſſage of the 12th day of *November* laſt, which reſpects the recommendation of Congreſs concerning the importation of convicts into the ſtates from the *Britiſh* dominions, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the more effectually preventing the importation and introduction into this commonwealth of felons convict, and of other malefactors.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this* "*commonwealth*," and that it be the order for the day.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *February* 10, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Northampton* and *Luzerne* was read, praying that a ſum of money may be granted for laying out and making a road from *Jacob Heller's*, about two miles on the ſouth ſide of the *Wind Gap* of the *Blue Mountains*, to the ſouth ſide of the *Swamp*, there to meet a road from the *Water Gap* of the *Lehigh*, and from thence to go through the ſaid *Swamp* to *Wilkeſbarre*, in the ſaid county of *Luzerne*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Dering*, Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Ihrie*, Mr. *Saylor*, Mr. *White*, Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *Marſhall*, Mr. *Philips*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Roberts*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Daviſon*, to report thereon.

A letter from *Timothy Pickering*, Eſquire, and others, concurring with the prayer of the aforeſaid petition, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* was read, praying the ſaid county may be divided into four diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Daniel Murphy*, late a Captain in the navy of this ſtate, was read, referring to his petition preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying he may be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Managers of the Houſe of Employment and Alms Houſe for the guardians of the poor in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition from 485 inhabitants of the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, read *November* 17th laſt, and praying that a committee may be appointed to viſit and inſpect the Houſe of Employment and Alms Houſe, and its affairs, at preſent under their ſuperintendance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the commiſſioners of *Northumberland* county, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Lytle*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Broadhead*, Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Nevil*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to prevent the importation of convicts into this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a volunteer company of artillery in* "*the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real* "*eſtates within this commonwealth*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *February* 11, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers Juſtices of the Peace for the county of *Bucks* was read, ſetting forth, that by the increaſe of buſineſs in the Court of Common Pleas, in the week allotted for holding ſaid Court ſufficient time is not afforded for that purpoſe, therefore praying that the Quarter Seſſions may be opened on *Monday*, and cloſed on *Wedneſday*, whereby one day more will be gained to the Courts of Common Pleas; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Bucks*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, remonſtrating againſt the conduct of *Thomas Dyer*, Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace in and for the ſaid county, and praying he may be diſmiſſed from his office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A certificate from *Peter Coſner* and others, inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are informed that a petition hath been preſented to the General Aſſembly, ſaid to be ſigned by them, againſt *Thomas Dyer*, Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace for ſaid county, and diſavowing the ſame as not being their act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act concerning cattle, horſes and* "*ſheep, treſpaſſing within this province*," and praying the ſame may be altered, ſo as to enable the perſon taking up cattle, horſes or ſheep treſpaſſing (having duly advertiſed them, and no claimant appearing) to deliver them to the Overſeers of the poor, for the purpoſe of being ſold, and that the monies ariſing from ſuch ſales be applied as the ſaid act directs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from the freeholders and others, inhabitants of the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, of a ſimilar tenor with their petition read *November* 17th laſt, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid remonſtrance and petition, together with the memorial of the Managers of the Houſe of Employment and Alms Houſe, read yeſterday, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Sands* and Mr. *Johnſon*, to report thereon.

The petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of the townſhip of *Moyamenſing*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read in the late Houſe *February* 28th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it, with all other petitions on the files relating to ſaid ſubject, be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Benjamin Mavy*, read *November* 20th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Orth*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Weitzel*, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 25th, 1785, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gilchreeſt,* Mr. *Miley* and Mr. *Gore,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Samuel Lehman,* read *November* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall,*

To re-conſider the vote of the Houſe on the 7th inſtant, againſt a commitment of the petitions of 1900 citizens and freemen of this commonwealth, for the eſtabliſhment of a Theatre in or near this city.

Which was carried in the affirmative. Whereupon,

On motion,

Ordered, That the ſaid petitions be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to confer with Council on the ſubject of the letter from *Thomas Scott,* Eſquire, containing his reſignation.

The report of the committee on claims, read *November* 21ſt laſt, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of claims report, upon the petition of *Frances Ramie,* that this Houſe can afford her no relief for the loſs of her perſonal property, as ſtated in her petition, though ſuch relief be provided for in the law for quieting diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne,* and therefore recommend that the petitioner have leave to withdraw her petition.

Upon the petition of *Martin Jugiez* and *George Rutter,* the committee are of opinion that the petitioners ought to apply to their employers, and have leave to withdraw their petition.

Upon the petition of *Chriſtian Helm,* they find that his apprentice enliſted after the expiration of the law that made proviſion for compenſating the maſters of ſervants or apprentices enliſted into the army, and therefore the prayer of his petition cannot be granted.

Upon the petition of *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow,* they recommend that the ſaid petition be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to " ſuſpend the powers of the Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for granting to the corporation of the Mini-* " *ſters, Veſtrymen and Church Wardens of the* German *Lutheran congregation* " *in and near the city of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain* " *lands therein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor* " *of the ſaid congregation,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to eſtabliſh a volunteer company of artillery in the city of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 12, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Thomas Clingan and *Michael Schmyſer,* Eſquires, elected Repreſentatives for the county of *York,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch* was read, ſtating the many loſſes he has ſuſtained in trade, and praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing him, by way of lottery, to diſpoſe of a large quantity of books for the purpoſe of paying his debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* owners of land at and near *Wyoming,* was read, praying the act, entituled " *An* " *Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut " Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for* " *other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" paſſed the twenty-eighth day of *March,* 1787, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 83 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* was read, ſetting forth, that many valuable citizens of this ſtate have been diveſted of their property by the act, entituled " *An Act for aſcertaining and confirm-* " *ing to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them* " *claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mention-* " *ed,*" for which no compenſation hath been made them; and praying that a full equivalent for ſuch property may be given them, either in lands equal in value, quantity, quality and ſituation conſidered, or the amount thereof paid by the public in three or four yearly payments.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Richards* have leave of abſence.

The petition of *John Weitzel,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"—

It was carried in the negative: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Erb* and Mr. *Trexler,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clingan* be added to the committee appointed *February* 7th, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the improvement of the public roads, *&c.* in the room of Mr. *M'Clellan.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Broadhead* and Mr. *Irwin* be added to the committee appointed *February* 9th, on the petition of divers owners and occupiers of banked meadow grounds on the rivers *Delaware* and *Schuylkill*, in the county of *Philadelphia*.

The committee appointed *February* 9th, on the petition of *Benjamin Moore*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of releaſing *Benjamin Moore*, a collector of taxes in the townſhip of *Lebanon*, late *Lancaſter*, now *Dauphin* county, for the year 1783, from his confinement in the gaol of the laſt mentioned county.

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Marſhall* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to grant and ſecure to* Robert Leſlie, *for a limited time, the ſole* "*and excluſive right and benefit of conſtructing, making and ſelling, within* "*this commonwealth, the improvements by him lately invented on clocks and* "*watches*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran con*" *gregation worſhipping at the church called St.* Peter'*s*, *in* Pikeland *townſhip*, "*in the county of* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *February* 13, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from the Juſtices of the Peace, Grand Jury, and 400 inhabitants of the county of *York*, were read, praying a ſum of money may be granted for opening and making a road from *Hoſack*'s mill, in *Franklin* townſhip, *York* county, through *Black*'s gap, to a place called *Sharp*'s tavern, in *Franklin* county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſaid petitions, together with the petition of the Juſtices of the Peace, Grand Jury, and ſundry others of the inhabitants of *Franklin* county, read *February* 7th, be referred to the committee appointed on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the improvement and continuation of the public roads, *&c.*

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* and the vicinity thereof, and divers inhabitants of the counties of *Northumberland* and *Luzerne*, were read, praying that ſome money may be granted for compleating the road from the falls of *Neſcopeck* to *Leonard Balliard*'s, in *Mahoning* valley; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county was read, praying *Raccoon* creek may be declared a public highway, from the mouth thereof to *White*'s mills.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a majority of the freeholders of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, complaining of the preſent eſtabliſhment of Juſtices of the Peace in the ſaid city of *Philadelphia*, and praying that the mode of appointing Juſtices may be altered, and the ſaid city incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* againſt the conduct of *Thomas Dyer*, Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid county, read *February* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the ſeveral papers relative thereto, read in the late Houſe *March* 29th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon, and that they be and hereby are authoriſed and empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

A motion was made by Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for reducing the expences of government, and making the ſame conſiſtent with the principles of our conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 10th, on the petition of *John Lytle*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 10th, on the petition of the commiſſioners of *Northumberland* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 9th, on the repreſentation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 11th, on the petition of *Benjamin Mavey*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 11th, on the petitions of 1900 citizens and freemen of this commonwealth, for the eſtabliſhment of a theatre in or near the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 11th, on the petition of the Juſtices of the Peace of *Bucks* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 20th laſt, on the petitions of the coach-makers, and other mechanics employed in the various branches of that manufacture in the city of *Philadelphia* and *Germantown*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims, to whom was referred, *November* 5th laſt, the petition of *Elizabeth Parker*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 7th, on that part of the meſſage from Council which recommends an extenſion of the time of payment for unpatented lands, *&c.* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 11th, to confer with Council on the ſubject of the letter from *Thomas Scott*, Eſquire, containing his reſignation, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with Council on the ſubject of Mr. *Scott*'s reſignation, report——

That having been in conference with a committee of Council, the conferees were of opinion that no authority exiſting within the ſtate are competent to accept of Mr. *Scott*'s reſignation as a repreſentative to the Congreſs of the United States. The committee, conceiving that Mr. *Scott*'s letter of reſignation communicated to the Houſe ſhould be returned to Council, to be diſpoſed of as they ſhall think proper, beg leave to offer a reſolution,

That the Speaker be directed to return the ſaid letter to the Supreme Executive Council.

A member preſented to the chair the report on the petition of *Evan Owen*, recommended by the late General Aſſembly, *October* 4th laſt, to the conſideration of this Houſe, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant and ſecure to* Robert Leſlie, *for a* "*limited time, the ſole and excluſive right and benefit of conſtructing, making* "*and ſelling, within this commonwealth, the improvements by him lately invented* "*on clocks and watches*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 14, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from near 400 inhabitants of the county of *York* were read, ſetting forth, that the fiſheries in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago* are greatly obſtructed by dams being erected acroſs the ſaid rivers, and praying the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating the fiſheries in the rivers* Codorus *and* Co-"newago," may be ſo far amended, that, inſtead of five feet in breadth to be left open near the middle of the dams, the ſame may be extended to ten feet in breadth, and that the platform extending down ſaid rivers be five feet inſtead of four, to form a ſlope (by ſteps) for the gradual deſcent of the waters.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York* were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating the* "*fiſheries in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, *in* York *county*," and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Superintendants of the New Market erected on *Callowhill-ſtreet*, in the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 18th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, reſiding in the town of *Sunbury* and the neighbourhood thereof, was read, praying for leave to bring in a bill for the appropriation of that portion of the ſixty thouſand acres of land ſet apart for the endowment of public ſchools, to be allotted to the county of *Northumberland*, for the endowment of a public ſchool in the ſaid town.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a committee appointed by and on behalf of a very large number of the non-reſident and other owners of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate was read, remonſtrating againſt the preſent mode of aſſeſſing and levying taxes upon the ſaid lands, and praying this Houſe to ſuſpend for a ſhort period the ſale of unſeated lands for taxes, till ſome new and better mode of aſſeſſment and collection can be deviſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Franklin*, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, on a charge of high treaſon, was read, praying he may be admitted to bail, to take his trial at the next Court of Oyer and Terminer to be held in and for the county of *Luzerne*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Timothy Harnett*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* were read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Allegheny*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Lawrence Erb*, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 9th, 1787, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

A motion was made by Mr. *Marſhall*, ſeconded by Mr. *Beale*,

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to extend for a limited time the right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers on the ungranted lands, the property of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gore*, poſtponed *November* 20th laſt: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Saylor* be a committee, to bring in a bill for the relief of inſolvent debtors who are not citizens of this ſtate.

The committee appointed *November* 4th laſt, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the boundary lines of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 13th laſt, on that part of the meſſage of Council which ſuggeſts the propriety of directing engravings of the boundary lines of this ſtate, *&c.* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 5th, on the petition of *Robert Beatty*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable the Commiſſioners of *Cumberland* county to liberate *Robert Beatty* from the gaol of ſaid county, on condition he aſſign and deliver to ſaid Commiſſioners his goods and chattles, and other effects, agreeably to the prayer of his petition.

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Marſhall* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of *Evan Owen,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Johnſton,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The report on the petition of the Juſtices of the Peace for the county of *Bucks,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to enable the Juſtices of the Quarter Seſſions for the county of *Bucks* to begin their ſeſſions on the *Mondays* preceding the days on which they are now held by law, and to cloſe on the *Wedneſdays* following.

Ordered, That the members from *Bucks* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to prevent the importation of convicts into* " *this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend the powers of " the Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county."

An ACT *for granting to the corporation of the Miniſters, Veſtrymen and Church Wardens of the* German *Lutheran congregation in and near the city of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation.*

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *February* 16, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from about 200 inhabitants of *Germantown,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſtating their inability to pay the enormous taxes aſſeſſed and levied on their property, and praying the attention of this Houſe to the expenditure of the public revenue.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 3446 inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of 1900 citizens and freemen of this commonwealth, read *February* 6th, in favor of a Theatre in or near the city of *Philadelphia,* and requeſting the prayer thereof may not be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of this ſtate was read, of a ſimilar tenor with that part of the meſſage of Council of *February* 6th, reſpecting the improvement and continuation of the public roads, *&c.* and praying this Houſe to grant a ſum of money for thoſe ſeveral purpoſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *February* 7th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the improvement of the public roads, *&c.*

A petition from the committee of the Dramatic Aſſociation, on behalf of themſelves and the many citizens who have prayed for a repeal of any law or part of a law that prohibits dramatic entertainments, was read, remonſtrating againſt the petitions of 3446 of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and by an act to repeal ſo much of the law as reſtrains Theatrical Exhibitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* reſiding in the town of *Sunbury* and the neighbourhood thereof, read *February* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *White* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

The petition of a committee appointed by and on behalf of a very large number of the non-reſident and other owners of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate, read *February* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Benjamin Mavey,* read *February* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report read *February* 9th, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the vendue laws, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the teſt law, read *February* 9th, was read the ſecond time, and unanimouſly adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to the laws requiring from the citizens of this commonwealth certain teſts of abjuration and allegiance, beg leave to report——

That however proper ſuch laws might have been during the late war, when, by the diviſion of a powerful nation, it became neceſſary for individuals to make a ſolemn declaration of their attachment to one or the other of the contending parties, to your committee it appears, that in times of peace and of well eſtabliſhed government they are not only uſeleſs, but highly pernicious, by diſqualifying a great body of the people from exerciſing many neceſſary offices, and throwing the whole burthen thereof on others; and, alſo, by alienating the affections of tender, though perhaps miſtaken, minds from a government, which, by its invidious diſtinctions, they are led to conſider as hoſtile to their peace and happineſs.

Your committee therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *to wit,* *Reſolved,* That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to repeal all the laws or acts of General Aſſembly, which require any oath or affirmation of allegiance to this commonwealth from the citizens thereof, and of abjuration or renunciation of any foreign power whatever, and to remove all diſabilities created by a non-compliance therewith.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution, and that they be inſtructed to inſert a clauſe containing the form of an oath or affirmation of allegiance to be taken by foreigners coming to reſide in this ſtate, in conformity to the forty-ſecond ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 17, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the miniſter, truſtees, elders and deacons of the *German* Reformed congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that they have erected a free ſchool for the education of the poor of the ſaid ſociety, and praying this Houſe to grant them a part of the unappropriated lands of this ſtate in aid of the ſaid inſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nicholas Reib* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

A petition from *James Daviſon,* late Surgeon of the fifth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth his claim to commutation, on the ſame grounds as granted to other ſurgeons of the late army; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from 340 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of 83 inhabitants of the ſaid county, read *February* 12th.

Ordered to lie on the table,

A petition from *Henry Pawling* was read, referring to his remonſtrance read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 13th 1787, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *John Ryan, Thomas Weſtcott, Clement Gregory, William Middleton, Joſeph Cowdry* and *Andrew Richardſon,* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Saylor,* to report thereon.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means, having had referred to them that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the payment of penſioners, the expence of ſupporting the invalid corps, and the incompetence of the preſent funds to the payment of theſe objects, report——

That in order to form a juſt eſtimate of the debts and revenues of the ſtate, they have had recourſe to the official eſtimates laid before the General Aſſembly, as well as to the Treaſurer of the State.

By the former they find, that there was payable in the year 1788,			£ 225144 0 0
Independent of the arrears of intereſt from former years, and of the inſtalments to the proprietaries.			
That there was received in the ſtate treaſury, between the 1ſt *January* and 1ſt *September*, a period of eight months, - - -		£ 117806 0 0	
And from a return of the Treaſurer, that he had received between 1ſt *Sept.* and 1ſt *Feb.* a period of 5 months,	£ 66710 0 0		
Deduct one month,	13342 0 0		
		£ 53368 0 0	
Makes the ſum received in 1788, - - -			171174 0 0
So that there was a deficiency in 1788, of			£ 53970 0 0

There is due to the late proprietaries upon the inſtalments, to the end of 1788, - - - £ 121000 0 0

And by the 1ſt of *April* there will be due for intereſt to the public creditors, at leaſt, - - - £ 120000 0 0

The pay and incidental expences of government are ſtated to be, *per annum*, - - - - £ 28000 0 0

From this ſtatement it is evident, that the demands at the treaſury exceed the receipts conſiderably; nor does it appear to the committee, that under preſent circumſtances the revenues could be made much more productive.

The government of the United States have, by their conſtitution, the excluſive right of levying impoſts, of courſe that part of the revenue of *Pennſylvania* will immediately ceaſe.

It produced in the laſt year about, - -	£ 52000 0 0
The tonnage on foreign ſhipping will likewiſe ceaſe as a revenue to this ſtate, - - - -	2000 0 0
The balance of other tonnage, after paying the expence of the light houſe, - - - -	1200 0 0
Thus there will be a reduction of the revenue to the amount of - - - -	55200 0 0

Carried over, - £ 55200 0 0

Brought over, -	£ 55200	0	0
To which add deficiency of the preſent revenue, -	53970	0	0
	£ 109170	0	0

So that there will then be a deficiency of *one hundred and nine thouſand one hundred and ſeventy pounds, per annum.*

The committee, having ſtated the actual and probable deficiency, have taken into conſideration the nature of the engagements of the ſtate.

The expences of government, ſtated at *twenty-eight thouſand pounds per annum,* are no otherwiſe provided for than by the following appropriations.

Tax on writs, - -	£ 2000	0	0			
On pleaſurable carriages, -	2500	0	0			
Auctioneers, - - -	2500	0	0			
Tavern and marriage licences, -	3200	0	0			
				£ 10200	0	0

The following revenues unappropriated, but applied to that purpoſe.

Intereſt on money loaned, ſay -	£ 2000	0	0			
Fees of the land-office, -	8500	0	0			
Secretary of Council, - -	1400	0	0			
Court fines and forfeitures, -	500	0	0			
				12400	0	0
Making -				£ 22600	0	0

The committee are of opinion that ſome of theſe revenues are conſiderably over rated, and that further proviſion ought to be made for this ſervice.

The next article in the Comptroller's eſtimate is the proportion of the bills of the emiſſion of 1785, of which to be ſunk annually, £ 20000 0 0

This can with no propriety be diſpenſed with. That emiſſion has ceaſed to be a circulating medium, and ought to be deſtroyed agreeably to the original proviſion.

III. The annual inſtalment to the late proprietaries, £ 25000 0 0

Upon this the committee think it unceceſſary to make any other remark, than that it ought to be punctually paid.

IV. Intereſt on the funded debt, *per annum,*	£ 12143	0	0			
On the funded depreciation ditto, -	13530	0	0			
				£ 25673	0	0

The firſt of theſe are for debts due by the ſtate, the ſecond for the depreciation of pay to the officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, ſtate navy, military hoſpitals, *&c.* a conſiderable part of which, it is ſaid, is chargeable to the United States; however, this claſs of creditors have no demand upon any other than the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and the revenue of exciſe is ſpecially appropriated to the latter.

V. The new loan debt, the annual intereſt whereof amounts to £ 111068 0 0

This debt was originally due by the United States, and aſſumed by *Pennſylvania,* for the relief of her citizens.

Without entering into the policy of the aſſumption, the committee only think it neceſſary to remark,—That the United States have the power to provide for the debts and expences thereof, paſt as well as to come, and that a very conſiderable ſource of revenue (heretofore applied towards the payment of the intereſt on that debt) devolves to that government. It appears therefore reaſonable, that the payment of the intereſt ſhould in like manner devolve to it. Whether that ſhall hereafter be done through the treaſury of *Pennſylvania,* or to the individual creditors, is not within the power of the ſtate to determine; but in any event it is to be preſumed that juſtice will be done to the creditors.

The next article is, the amount of penſions under the recommendation of Congreſs, and amounts to, *per annum,* £ 5680 0 0

Theſe payments were to be allowed the ſtate in her account of requiſitions; but being herſelf a creditor beyond her proportion of the aggregate debt, Congreſs have no claim on the ſcore of requiſitions, and therefore ought to provide for the payment of theſe penſions. The committee, however, ſubmit the propriety of continuing the payments for ſome time longer, as it is probable many of the objects are incapable of earning their living, and would neceſſarily become a burthen on the poor rates.

The penſions payable to the widows and children of commiſſioned officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, *&c.* amounts to 1854 0 0

And to the widows of officers and privates of the militia, *&c.* - - - - 1597 0 0

Per annum, - £ 3451 0 0

Theſe payments the committee apprehend ought to be continued.

The laſt article is, the expence of training the militia, ſtated to be, *per annum,* - - - £ 5072 0 0

As this ſervice is within the powers of the general government, nothing appears neceſſary at this time on the part of the ſtate reſpecting it.

Having thus briefly ſtated the expences and revenues, they think it their duty further to remark,

That a reduction in the expences of government ought now to take place, and that ſome of the *offices* might be made to contribute towards its ſupport.

That to enable the ſtate to do juſtice to perſons having juſt claims upon it, not already provided for, to improve and lay out roads, and encourage domeſtic manufactures, a ſum of money ought to be provided and ſet apart, ſubject to the diſpoſition of the legiſlature.

To the obſervations already made upon the new loan debt it appears neceſſary to add, that at this time the arrears of intereſt are due in unequal proportions, ſome perſons having received intereſt up to *October* laſt, while others are without receiving for 18 months. In order to equalize theſe payments, and to prevent the hardſhip that would ariſe by the immediate ſtoppage of intereſt, the committee recommend that the intereſt continue to be paid till the whole is compleated up to the 1ſt of *April* next, then to ceaſe and determine.

And in order to obtain the ſenſe of the Houſe upon theſe objects ſeparately, they ſubmit the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the intereſt due and to become due upon the *fifty thouſand pounds* loaned by the act of *March* 1785, the fees received in the land-office, and by the Secretary of Council, the monies received for court fines and forfeitures, together with the reſidue of the monies ariſing from tavern and marriage licences, after the payment of the Judges ſalaries, be appropriated towards the payment of the expences of government.

Reſolved, That *ten thouſand pounds* be annually ſet apart out of the revenue of this ſtate, as a fund for the payment of ſuch claims as are not otherwiſe provided for, the opening and improvement of the roads and inland navigation, and the encouragement of domeſtic manufactures, as the legiſlature may by law direct.

Reſolved, That ſo much of any act or acts, as directs the payment of intereſt on the new loan debt beyond the firſt day of *April* next, be repealed; that after the payments are compleated to the firſt of *April,* they ſhall then ceaſe and determine; and that the impoſts (other than the protecting duties) which are now or hereafter may become due, till the aſſumption of that revenue by the United States, be excluſively applied to that purpoſe.

Reſolved, That all payments of penſioners under the act of 22d *September* 1785 ceaſe, after the ſame ſhall be paid up to the firſt day of *May* next.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill or bills, as they may find neceſſary, for carrying into effect the foregoing reſolutions.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a plan for leſſening the expences of government, and upon ſuch offices, the emoluments of which may be made to contribute to the expence thereof.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be directed to diſband the invalid corps, and to provide in a more frugal way for the ſafety of the public records.

Ordered to lie on the table.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the ſaid report be immediately printed for the uſe of the Houſe.

The committee appointed *February* 7th, on the petition of *Ebenezer Frothingham* and the letter of *Jonathan Hart,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from *Jonathan Hart,* Eſquire, alſo the petition of *Ebenezer Frothingham,* Eſquire, in behalf of himſelf and the officers of the garriſon at *Venango,* tranſmitted by the Honorable Council, report——

They are of opinion, that granting rights of pre-emption to any one is highly improper, and gives an unjuſt preference over other citizens, who are equally entitled to have lands on ſuch terms as the ſtate uſually grants them on. Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer contained in the petition of *Jonathan Hart,* Eſquire, and *Ebenezer Frothingham,* Eſquire, cannot be complied with, and that they have leave to withdraw the ſame.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,* in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That every report brought into this Houſe, and every motion made and ſeconded, be entered on the minutes.

It was then moved by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Foulke,*

To inſert, after the word "*Houſe,*" the words "*be entered on the minutes, the ſame having been ſigned by the members of the committee who agree to the ſame.*"

A further amendment was then moved by Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *G. Heiſter,* in lieu of that propoſed by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Foulke,*

To inſert, after the word "*Houſe,*" the words "*ſhall be entered on the minutes, and ſigned by the members of the committee who agreed to the ſame, if thereto required by the minority of ſaid committee.*"

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the laſt amendment?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The firſt amendment then recurring,

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Samuel Foulke,*
2 *John Hopkins,*
3 *Joſeph Reed,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *Thomas Beale,*
6 *Jonathan Hoge,*
7 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
8 *Joſeph Sands,*
9 *Daniel Broadhead,*
10 *John Ludwig,*
11 *John Piper,*
12 *John White,*
13 *John Irwin,*
14 *William Todd,*
15 *James Marſhall,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *John Gilchreeſt,*
19 *Theophilus Philips,*
20 *James M'Lene,*
21 *James Johnſon,*
22 *Robert Lollar,*
23 *Jacob Miley,*
24 *Adam Orth.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William Lewis,*
6 *William M'Pherſon,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Mark Wilcox,*
15 *John M'Dowell,*
16 *Richard Downing,* jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *James Clemſon,*
19 *James Cunningham,*
20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *Henry Dering,*
22 *Thomas Lilley,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *Henry Tyſon,*

NAYS.

25 *David Mitchell,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Peter Ealer,*
28 *Conrad Ibrie,* jun.
29 *Stephen Balliot,*
30 *Jacob Saylor,*

NAYS.

31 *Samuel Maclay,*
32 *John Nevil,*
33 *Jacob Reiff,*
34 *Jonathan Roberts,*
35 *John Carſon,*
36 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The original motion recurring,

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative.

The committee appointed *November* 4th laſt, on the report on the memorial of Doctor *William Smith,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Doctor *William Smith,* with the ſundry papers therein referred to, report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſaid memorial and the ſubject matter thereof, and are of opinion that the act which took away the charter of the college, academy and free ſchool of the city of *Philadelphia,* was not founded upon any juſt cauſe of forfeiture of the ſaid charter, but in direct violation of the conſtitution of this ſtate, and contrary to thoſe principles of juſtice which ought ever to govern legiſlative acts. They therefore recommend,

That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to reſtore the charter and property of the college, academy and free ſchool of the city of *Philadelphia,* to the Truſtees thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for founding and endowing a public ſchool in the town and county of* " Huntingdon," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 18, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers owners of marſh and meadow grounds, bounded by the river *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, in the townſhip of *Tinicum,* in the county of *Cheſter,* was read, ſetting forth, that the banks incloſing the ſaid meadows have been made and ſupported by thoſe whoſe lands bound on the ſaid river and creek, whereby ſome perſons have contributed more than others who are equally benefited; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of compelling every perſon intereſted in the ſaid meadow grounds to pay a proportionable part of the expence of keeping the ſaid banks in repair.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the town of *Harriſburg* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to erect the ſaid town into a borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Superintendants of the New Market erected on *Callowhill-ſtreet*, in the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 14th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Pherſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon*,

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill to remedy the evils in their petition ſtated.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, read *February* 13th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wright*, ſeconded by Mr. *Nevil*,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Mitchell*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Todd*, to report thereon.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, praying to be annexed to the county of *Allegheny*, read *February* 14th, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Nevil*, ſeconded by Mr. *Irwin*,

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Philips*, to report thereon.

A memorial and petition from a number of the merchants, traders and citizens of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the vicinity thereof, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to revive and continue in "force the acts of Aſſembly regulating ſales by public auction, and for other "purpoſes therein mentioned*," as grievous and burthenſome, inaſmuch as the ſame is partially impoſed on the citizens of *Philadelphia*, and the vicinity thereof, and not extended to the citizens of the ſtate at large, and praying the ſame may be repealed, and the buſineſs laid open to all perſons who may chuſe to engage therein, on giving ſecurity for their good conduct, and being licenced by Council, or that ſo much of the ſaid act may be repealed, which confines the buſineſs to three perſons only.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion made by Mr. *Marſhall*, ſeconded by Mr. *Beale*, *February* 14th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to extend, for a limited time, the right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers on the ungranted lands, the property of this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Beale* and Mr. *Marſhall* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *February* 13th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which recommends an extenſion of the time for the payment of arrearages on unpatented lands, *&c.* was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolu-"tion*, viz.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to extend the time for the patenting of lands taken up before the revolution to the firſt day of *December* next.

It was moved by Mr. *Wright*, ſeconded by Mr. *Todd*,

To ſtrike out the words "*to the firſt day of* December *next*."

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution, as amended, adopted: Whereupon

Ordered, That the laſt named committee bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *February* 10th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſundry inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne,* beg leave to report the following reſolution :

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to divide the county of *Luzerne* into four election diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their annual elections, agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *John Lytle,* read *February* 13th, was read the ſecond time : Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of *John Lytle,* contained in his petition to this Houſe, cannot be granted.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for founding and endowing a public ſchool* " *in the town and county of* Huntingdon," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Logan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,* in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas, by an act for methodiſing the department of accounts of this commonwealth, and for the more effectual ſettlement of the ſame, it is declared, that the books of the Comptroller appointed by that law ſhall be open to the inſpection of the committee of accounts : And whereas the accounts of the Comptroller-General have never been examined by the legiſlature ſince the inſtitution of that office in *April* 1782 : Therefore

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to appoint Commiſſioners to examine the accounts of the Comptroller, to compare them with the vouchers in his poſſeſſion, and report an accurate ſtatement of the ſame to the legiſlature.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 19, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Newberry* townſhip, in the county of *York,* was read, praying they may be annexed to the firſt election diſtrict, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of reducing the price of public lands, and of exempting all lands within the late purchaſe from taxation for the term of ſeven years, or for ſuch longer or other time as may be deemed expedient ; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *February* 16th, on the petition of divers non-reſident and other owners of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate, to report thereon.

It was then moved by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

To re-conſider the ſaid order of the Houſe, for the purpoſe of referring the aforeſaid petition to a ſpecial committee.

Which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Beale*,

Ordered, That the ſaid petition be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Huſton* was read, ſetting forth, that he was appointed a deputy ſurveyor of one of the diſtricts in the late purchaſe, and proceeded to run the boundaries of his diſtrict, whereby he has incurred a conſiderable expence; that afterwards, by an order from the Supreme Executive Council, he was directed to deſiſt until a new allotment took place, by which new allotment of diſtricts the lines by him run became uſeleſs; and praying this Houſe to grant him compenſation for his ſervices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Murray* was read, referring to his memorial read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Grizzel Robertſon* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband became ſurety for his brother *Peter Robertſon*, a collector of militia fines in the county of *Bucks*; that the ſaid *Peter* afterwards died inſane, leaving his property ſo reduced and deranged as to be inſufficient to ſatisfy the claims of the ſtate, and ſtating her diſtreſſed ſituation, and that judgment has been awarded againſt her ſaid huſband for the ſum of *one hundred and ſixty-three pounds four ſhillings*, being the amount of arrearages due from the ſaid *Peter Robertſon* on account of fines by him collected, and praying this Houſe to ſuſpend the payment of the ſaid ſum, and that ſhe may be permitted to enjoy her ſaid huſband's eſtate during the term of her natural life.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette* was read, praying a diviſion of ſaid county may take place anew, for the purpoſes of election diſtricts.

The petition of *Timothy Harnett*, read *February* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Saylor*, to report thereon.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York*, for and againſt the fiſheries in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago*, read *February* 14th, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Lilley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Downing*, Mr. *Clemſon*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Ludwig*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the town of *Harriſburg*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The memorial and petition of a number of the merchants, traders and citizens of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the vicinity thereof, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The memorial of the truſtees, elders and deacons of the *German* Reformed congregation in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 17th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hiltzheimer* and Mr. *Ihrie*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers owners of marſh and meadow grounds, bounded by the river *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, in *Tinicum* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wilcox*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Alliſon*, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *November* 19th, the report on the petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the report of a committee on the petition of a number of inhabitants of this ſtate, reſpecting a mill-dam built by *George Frey* acroſs *Swetara* creek, in *Dauphin* county, having paid due attention to the report, and the petitions on which it was founded, are of opinion that the aforeſaid dam, and the race that leads the water to *Frey*'s mill, affords a compleat navigation, at leaſt a diſtance of three miles up *Swetara*, for ſuch boats and other craft as are uſed on the *Suſquehanna* and *Juniata* rivers.

Your committee are likewiſe of opinion, that the tumbling dam built by *George Frey* will not obſtruct the paſſage of fiſh up ſaid creek.

From theſe conſiderations, and the great utility of *Frey*'s mill to the inhabitants on the waters of *Suſquehanna* and *Juniata* rivers, they are induced to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing *George Frey* to ſupport the dam he has built acroſs *Swetara* creek, with ſuch reſtrictions as will oblige him to make and ſupport a lock at the moſt convenient place at his mill race, for the convenience of ſuch boats and other craft as may have occaſion to paſs up and down ſaid creek.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report, read *February* 17th, on the memorial of the Reverend Doctor *William Smith*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

The memorial of a conſiderable number of the Truſtees of the college, academy and charitable ſchool of *Philadelphia*, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 7th, 1784, was alſo read.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to reſtore the charter and property of the college, academy and free ſchool of the city of *Philadelphia* to the Truſtees thereof.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Pherſon*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M‘Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Samuel Foulke*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Mark Wilcox*,
16 *John M‘Dowell*,
17 *Caleb James*,
18 *Richard Downing*, jun.
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *James Clemſon*,
21 *John Hopkins*,
22 *James Cunningham*,
23 *Jacob Erb*,

YEAS.

24 *Henry Dering*,
25 *Thomas Clingan*,
26 *Thomas Lilley*,
27 *Michael Schmyſer*,
28 *Henry Tyſon*,
29 *Joſeph Reed*,
30 *Daniel Broadhead*,
31 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
32 *Peter Ealer*,
33 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
34 *Stephen Balliot*,
35 *Jacob Saylor*,
36 *Samuel Maclay*,
37 *John White*,
38 *John Irvine*,
39 *James Marſhall*,
40 *John Nevil*,
41 *Robert Lollar*,
42 *Jacob Reiff*,
43 *Jonathan Roberts*,
44 *John Carſon*,
45 *Obadiah Gore*,
46 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Jonathan Hoge*,
5 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
6 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
7 *Joſeph Sands*,
8 *John Ludwig*,
9 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

10 *William Todd*,
11 *James Alliſon*,
12 *Alexander Wright*,
13 *John Gilchreeſt*,
14 *Theophilus Philips*,
15 *James M‘Lene*,
16 *James Johnſon*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *Adam Orth*.

So it was carried in the affirmative,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M‘Dowell*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Thomas Bradford*, for the ſum of *one hundred and fifty pounds*, in part of his account.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for the incorporation of the College of Phyſicians of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 20, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 3780 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* were read, praying a theatre may be licenced in or near the city of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 729 inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the licencing of a theatre in or near the city of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 1422 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, concurring in the prayer of the laſt petition, by reaſon of frequent loſſes ſuſtained by them on account of debtors abſconding on board veſſels in the *Delaware,* which veſſels often put to ſea before proceſs can be obtained from an inland place, ſuch as *Weſt-Cheſter,* and therefore praying that the ſeat of juſtice may be eſtabliſhed in the borough of *Cheſter.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, complaining of the exorbitant and illegal fees exacted by the Prothonotary of the ſaid county, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant them relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 213 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for amending the* "*penal laws of this ſtate,*" and praying the ſame may be repealed, or ſuch alterations made therein as to render the lives and property of the citizens more ſecure; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 3d laſt, to reviſe the criminal laws of this ſtate, and to make report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 9th, on the petitions of 996 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to conſider the petitions from certain inhabitants of *Northumberland* county, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, report——

That to them it appears the legiſlature ſhould rather decide upon fixed and determinate principles, than upon a bare expreſſion of the wiſhes of even many citizens; for although, in matters of local concern, thoſe immediately intereſted can beſt feel, and, feeling, can point out the particular inconveniencies of their own ſituation, yet they may not always impartially conſider or be deeply affected with the increaſed diſadvantages to others reſulting from their gratification. With the legiſlature it then reſts, to determine how far the particular caſes may accord with the general intereſts and harmony of the whole.

To your committee it appears, that in determining queſtions of this nature regard ſhould be had to the number and ability of the inhabitants, as well as to extent of country and the particular ſituation with reſpect to rivers, chains of mountains, and other natural circumſtances. That attention ſhould alſo be paid to future probable diviſions.

In applying theſe principles to the preſent inſtance, your committee are of opinion that the population of *Northumberland* will not juſtify a diviſion of that county, or enable the inhabitants to ſupport double county charges, nor can its extent form a reaſonable ground for diviſion, when unconnected with ſufficiently numerous ſettlements.

The ſituation of the country requeſted to be erected into a ſeparate county is more convenient to the preſent ſeat of juſtice than many parts of other large counties, and the river *Suſquehanna* forms the ſingle obſtruction in the way.

If regard is had to the counties which may in future be erected, or to the inconveniencies which would immediately attend the remaining part of *Northumberland*, this diviſion will prove itſelf ſtill more inexpedient, ſince that remaining part will conſtitute the moſt irregular figure, encompaſſing the new county on three of its ſides, whilſt the officers of juſtice muſt as a conſequence be compelled in ſome inſtances to take circuits round it, to avoid the releaſe of their priſoners by carrying them through this county in a direct courſe.

From the beſt information your committee can obtain, when the population of *Northumberland* ſhall authoriſe a diviſion, it muſt be widely different from the one now deſired.

The committee will farther hazard an opinion, that many diviſions and alterations of the lines of counties will be neceſſary, when, from a map of the ſtate accurately defining the waters, ridges of hills and mountains, and the preſent lines of counties, the members of the legiſlature can, from due information, decide on their propriety; until then, diviſions muſt often be made injudiciouſly, and until then (unleſs preſſing reaſons operate to the contrary) the erecting of new counties ſhould be deferred.

Influenced by theſe general and ſpecial reaſons, the committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition from *Northumberland* county for a diviſion of the ſame cannot be complied with.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal all the laws or acts of Aſſembly requiring any oath or affirma-* "*tion of allegiance from the inhabitants of this commonwealth, and for certain* "*other purpoſes*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petitions of 1900 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 13th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz*.

The committee of the city members, on the petitions for a repeal of the law which prohibits theatrical repreſentations, report——

That they entirely concur in ſentiment with their fellow-citizens, the petitioners, and in conſequence offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, repealing any act or part of an act which prohibits theatrical repreſentations.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To add the following words, after the word "*repreſentations*," viz. "*and to provide againſt the abuſes of the theatre by repreſentations injurious to morals.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

To re-commit the ſaid report, as amended.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to re-commit?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The following motion was then made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*, by way of inſtruction to the committee to be appointed on the ſaid reſolution, *viz.*

"And whereas a number of reſpectable citizens are apprehenſive that theatrical repreſentations may be abuſed, ſo that indecent, vicious and immoral performances may be exhibited on the ſtage, to the ſcandal of religion and virtue, the deſtruction of good order in ſociety, and the corruption of the manners of the people: And this Houſe being deſirous of quieting the minds of worthy citizens, and preventing the abuſe, ſo far as in them lies, of a meaſure in itſelf innocent:

"*Reſolved*, That the committee be inſtructed to inſert a clauſe in the bill directed to be brought in, giving authority to to licence and allow ſuch dramatic pieces only as ſhall be in their opinion unexceptionable; and if any plays, interludes, lectures, or other theatrical exhibitions (by whatſoever name or deſcription they may be called or known) ſhall be repreſented without ſuch licence, and contrary to decency and good morals, then, and in ſuch caſe, every perſon and perſons acting or performing any part or parts in ſuch indecent, immoral and unlicenced repreſentations, ſhall be liable to be indicted in the proper court, and, on conviction, to fine and impriſonment, and holding to the peace or good behaviour, at the diſcretion of the court before which ſuch trial ſhall be held."

Which was carried in the negative.

The original reſolution, as amended, recurring, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, repealing any act or part of an act which probibits theatrical repreſentations, and to provide againſt the abuſes of the theatre by repreſentations injurious to morals.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,

YEAS.

5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M'Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.

YEAS.

9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *John M'Dowell,*
12 *Alexander Lowrey,*
13 *John Hopkins,*
14 *Henry Dering,*
15 *Thomas Lilley,*
16 *Michael Schmyſer,*
17 *Henry Tyſon,*
18 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
19 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
20 *Joſeph Sands,*
21 *Daniel Broadhead,*
22 *John Ludwig,*

YEAS.

23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Peter Ealer,*
25 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
26 *Stephen Balliot,*
27 *Samuel Maclay,*
28 *John White,*
29 *John Irwin,*
30 *William Todd,*
31 *John Nevil,*
32 *Jacob Miley,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *Obadiah Gore,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
3 *John Chapman,*
4 *Valentine Upp,*
5 *Samuel Foulke,*
6 *Mark Wilcox,*
7 *Caleb James,*
8 *Richard Downing,* jun.
9 *James Clemſon,*
10 *James Cunningham,*
11 *Jacob Erb,*
12 *Thomas Clingan,*
13 *Joſeph Reed,*
14 *David Mitchell,*
15 *Thomas Kennedy,*

NAYS.

16 *Thomas Beale,*
17 *Jonathan Hoge,*
18 *Jacob Saylor,*
19 *John Piper,*
20 *James Alliſon,*
21 *Alexander Wright,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *Theophilus Philips,*
24 *James M'Lene,*
25 *James Johnſon,*
26 *Robert Lollar,*
27 *Jacob Reiff,*
28 *Jonathan Roberts,*
29 *Adam Orth.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 21, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* remonſtrating againſt the line reported to be run, for dividing the county of *Dauphin* aforeſaid from the county of *Lancaſter,* inaſmuch as one of the commiſſioners appointed to run the ſaid line did not actually attend, nor does the ſaid line agree with the words or intention of the legiſlature, expreſſed in the act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter *into a ſeparate county,*" and praying the ſaid act may be reviſed, or one or more capable diſintereſted perſons appointed to view the ſaid line, and report to this Houſe, was read, together with the depoſitions of *Martin Thoma*, *John Thoma* and *Joſeph Bamberger*, in confirmation of the facts ſtated in the ſaid petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 9th, on the petitions of 600 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of 600 inhabitants of the northern parts of *Cumberland* county, praying that a ſeparate county may by laid off, report——

That to them no reaſons appear ſufficiently forcible to ſhew the propriety of a diviſion at preſent, and therefore they offer a reſolution.

Reſolved, That the prayer of the aforeſaid petition cannot at this time be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth,* "*as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia *and the* "*neighbourhood thereof,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal part of an act, entituled* " An Act to confirm the eſtates and " interests of the college, academy and charitable ſchool of the city of *Philadelphia,* and to amend and alter the charters thereof conformably to the " revolution, and to the conſtitution and government of this common- " wealth, and to erect the ſame into an univerſity," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 1422 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Moore,* ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas,*

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Tyſon* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette,* read *February* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Philips* be a committee, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Newberry* townſhip, in the county of *York,* read *February* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Schmyſer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lilley,*

Ordered, That the members from the county of *York* be a committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Murray,* read *February* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *White*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Broadhead*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch*, read *February* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion made by Mr. *Balliot*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Sickle*, Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Franklin*, read *February* 14th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Gore*, ſeconded by Mr. *Logan*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Hoge*, with inſtructions to confer with the Supreme Executive Council and the Judges of the Supreme Court on the ſubject matters contained in his petition, and to make report thereon.

The petition of *Grizzel Robertſon*, read *February* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion made by Mr. *Foulke*, ſeconded by Mr. *Trexler*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *J. Heiſter* and Mr. *Trexler* be a committee, to report thereon.

The report read *February* 18th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to divide the county of *Luzerne* into four election diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their annual elections, agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, Mr. *Miley* and Mr. *Gore* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *February* 13th, on the petitions of the coach-makers, and other mechanics employed in the various branches of that manufacture, was read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to repeal ſo much of an act paſſed the 20th of *March*, 1783, entituled "*An Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles* "*therein mentioned, for the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" as impoſes a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of riding "*carriages.*"

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

To add, after the word "*carriages,*" the words "*other than coaches, chariots, phætons, or other four wheeled chaiſes.*"

Which was carried in the negative.

And on the queſtion to agree to the reſolution, as offered by the committee,

It was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon*,

To re-conſider the ſaid reſolution.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was thereupon moved by Mr. *Lollar,* ſeconded by Mr. *Ludwig,*

To adopt the amendment propoſed by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Moore.*

Which was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

To add the words "*in actual uſe,*" after the word "*chaiſes.*"

Which was carried in the negative,

And the reſolution, as amended, adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to repeal ſo much of an act paſſed the 20th of *March,* 1783, entituled "*An Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles* "*therein mentioned, for the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" as impoſes a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of riding carriages, other than coaches, chariots, phætons, or other four wheeled chaiſes.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *February* 23, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Hans Poyk,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Saylor,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Margaret Smyth,* wife of *Frederick Smyth,* of the county of *Philadelphia,* Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth, that before her marriage with her ſaid huſband ſhe was ſeiſed of divers meſſuages, lands and tenements, in the city and county of *Philadelphia,* which, by articles made before her ſaid marriage, were veſted in truſtees, for the purpoſe of ſecuring them to her ſeparate uſe; that ſome time after her marriage the ſaid truſt, with reſpect to her moiety of a tract of land called *Wilton* plantation, ſituated in *Paſſyunk* townſhip, in the county aforeſaid, containing about three hundred and fifty acres, was by indenture veſted in certain other truſtees, and for certain purpoſes in the ſame indenture mentioned; that ſhe has a very advantageous offer to diſpoſe of the ſaid plantation, whereby her eſtate therein will be converted into an annuity, payable to herſelf and her ſaid huſband during their lives, and the life of the ſurvivor, but that doubts have ariſen whether they have power to make a ſufficient title; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to authoriſe the ſaid truſtees, or any two of them, in conjunction with the petitioner and her ſaid huſband, to ſell and convey her moiety of ſaid plantation to the purchaſer, upon the terms and in the manner between them ſtipulated and agreed on.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the election diſtrict of *Auguſta*, in the county of *Northumberland*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 9th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Rector, Church Wardens and Veſtrymen of the* "*Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St.* John, *at* York-Town, *to mortgage the* "*parſonage houſe and certain lots of ground*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *February* 19th, on the petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing *George Frey* to ſupport the dam he has built acroſs *Swatara* creek, with ſuch reſtrictions as will oblige him to make and ſupport a lock at the moſt convenient place at his mill-race, for the convenience of ſuch boats and other craft as may have occaſion to paſs up and down ſaid creek.

Ordered, That Mr. *Tyſon*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Miley*, Mr. *Orth* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *February* 13th, on the petition of *Elizabeth Parker*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Elizabeth Parker* cannot be granted, and that ſhe have leave to withdraw her petition.

A member, having obtained leave, preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " A Supplement to the act, entituled "An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this "commonwealth," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Mentges*, read *February* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

It was then moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot*,

To refer the ſaid petition to a committee.

Which was carried in the negative. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal all the laws or acts of Aſſembly re*-"*quiring an oath or affirmation of allegiance from the inhabitants of this com*-"*monwealth, and for certain other purpoſes*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſem*-"*bly of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city* "*of* Philadelphia, *and the neighbourhood thereof*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report read *February* 13th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to alter and amend the act of Aſſembly of the late province, entituled "*An Act concerning cattle, horſes and ſheep treſpaſſing within this province,*" paſſed the fourth day of *March,* 1763, ſo as to remedy ſundry defects therein, as ſtated in the ſaid petition.

Ordered, That Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Erb* and Mr. *Trexler* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Ordered, That the ſaid committee be inſtructed to reviſe the laws for regulating fences, and inſert in the bill they are directed to bring in ſuch alterations of the ſaid laws, as they may think neceſſary.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for "erecting part of the county of *Bedford* into a ſeparate county," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* read *February* 20th, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene,*

Ordered, That the ſame be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Moore,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan* be added to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, to report a bill for regulating and eſtabliſhing fees, and, if deemed neceſſary, to employ a perſon or perſons to aid them in the completion of that important buſineſs.

The report read *February* 17th, on the letter from *Jonathan Hart,* Eſq; and the petition of *Ebenezer Frothingham,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer contained in the petition of *Jonathan Hart,* Eſq; and *Ebenezer Frothingham,* cannot be complied with, and that they have leave to withdraw the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 24, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers citizens reſiding on the weſt ſide of *Schuylkill* was read, ſetting forth, that a conſiderable ſum of money has been raiſed by law, which by another act of the legiſlature was directed to be expended in repairing that part of the old road leading to the borough of *Lancaſter,* commonly called *Jones*'s lane; that in as much as no part of the money directed to be laid out in amending the ſaid road hath been expended, they pray a part thereof at leaſt may be laid out in amending and repairing a weſtern road, commonly called the New Road, leading through the townſhip of *Blockley,* in the direction of the *High-ſtreet* of *Philadelphia,* towards the ſaid borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Miller,* of *Fermanagh* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath eſtabliſhed a ferry acroſs the river *Juniata,* at or near the mouth of *Raccoon* creek, and praying the ſame may be confirmed to him by law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* and the parts adjacent was read, praying that a ferry may be eſtabliſhed acroſs the river *Juniata*, at the mouth of *Raccoon* creek, and the right thereto veſted in *David Miller*, or his legal repreſentative.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 14th laſt, to confer with Council on the ſubject of an exoneration from the payment of militia fines, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with Council on the ſubject of an exoneration from the payment of militia fines report, as the reſult of the conference, the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill to inſtitute a Board in each county, conſiſting of the Member of Council, the Lieutenant, and Preſident of the Common Pleas for the ſame, with powers to receive and determine on appeals from the aſſeſſment of militia fines, and to grant exonerations from the payment thereof, in the whole or in part, in caſes of hardſhip or inability.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly for the relief of inſolvent debt*-"*ors*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to grant to the corporation of the Miniſter, Truſtees, Elders and Deacons* "*of the* German *Reformed congregation in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the late* "*province (now ſtate) of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for* "*endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims, to whom was referred the petition of *John Cart*, *February* 7th, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, on the petition of *John Cart*, beg leave to report,——

That they have examined into the claims of the petitioner to the lots mentioned in his petition, and have given him an opportunity of making ſuch perſonal explanations as he thought proper; but your committee are not ſatisfied as to his right to the property, even were it politically expedient to interfere in the buſineſs: Therefore, as well from their want of ſatisfaction as to his right, as from a conviction that it is inexpedient for the ſtate to extend the time for preferring ſuch claims, they are induced to recommend to the Houſe the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That *John Cart* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for altering the time of holding the Courts of General Quarter Seſſions of* "*the Peace and Gaol Delivery in the county of* Bucks," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Margaret Smyth*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Rector, Church-Wardens and* "*Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St.* John, *at* York-Town, "*to mortgage the parſonage houſe and certain lots of ground*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "A Supplement "to the act, entituled "An Act to enforce the due collection and payment "of taxes within this commonwealth," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made *February* 18th by Mr. *Logan*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*, relative to the inſpection and examination of the accounts of the Comptroller-General.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid motion, in order to introduce a reſolution in lieu thereof.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

The reſolution being read, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to examine into the powers of the Comptroller-General, and the mode of tranſacting buſineſs in that office, and that they report to the Houſe in their preſent ſeſſion.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Johnſton* and M. *Lollar* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *February* 13th, on the repreſentation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition from the Judges of the Supreme Court, beg leave to report——

That the independence and integrity of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, ſo eſſential to the due adminiſtration of juſtice, is endeavoured to be ſecured by the conſtitution of this ſtate, which directs and eſtabliſhes, that the ſaid Judges ſhall have fixed ſalaries, and be commiſſioned for ſeven years: That in and by an act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain,* "*fix and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries for the Judges of the Supreme Court*," paſſed on the twenty-fifth day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, the proviſion which is made by the conſtitution for the independence and integrity of the ſaid Judges was recognized, and the reſpective annual ſalaries therein ſpecified were fixed and eſtabliſhed, as the permanent ſalaries of the ſaid Judges, and of their ſucceſſors in office; and it was thereby declared and enacted, that the ſame ſalaries ſhould not thereafter be withdrawn, withheld or leſſened, on any pretence whatſoever: That in conſequence of an act of General Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual in-* "*tereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the in-* "*tereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*," bills of credit, to the amount of *one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds*, were made, and put into circulation, and the revenues of the ſtate have ſince been generally paid in the ſame bills, and received by the Judges towards their ſalaries: That the ſaid bills of credit have from time to time depreciated in value, and have ſometimes been reduced to leſs than two thirds of the eſtimated original value of the ſame, when exchanged for gold or ſilver, whereby the ſalaries of the Judges aforeſaid, which had been declared fixed and eſtabliſhed as aforeſaid, have been much impaired and leſſened, and conſiderable portions thereof have thereby been withholden from the ſaid Judges, to their manifeſt injury, in violation of the conſtitution of the commonwealth, and in direct contradiction to and derogation from the ſtipulations and proviſions of the act herein before recited, which was made for the expreſs purpoſe of aſcertaining, fixing and eſtabliſhing the ſame ſalaries in a permanent manner: For remedy whereof, and to make good and effectual the juſt and lawful ſalaries of the ſaid Judges, thus ſolemnly ſtipulated, and that the wholeſome proviſion of the conſtitution, and the act of Aſſembly aforeſaid, reſpecting the Judges eſpecially made, may be faithfully executed, we offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General ſhall, and he is hereby authoriſed and required to aſcertain, liquidate and declare, according to equity and good conſcience, the damages which have been, or at the times of ſuch liquidations ſhall have been, ſuſtained by the Judges of the Supreme Court ſeverally, by receiving the bills of credit aforeſaid for their ſalaries; and that upon a ſtatement thereof by the Comptroller-General made, and exhibited to the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council, the ſaid Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council may and ſhall make and ſign a warrant, on the Treaſurer of this commonwealth, for the ſum thereupon found due to each of the ſame Judges, payable to them reſpectively, or their legal repreſentatives; which warrants the ſaid Treaſurer is authoriſed and directed to pay and ſatisfy, out of any of the unappropriated monies of this commonwealth which ſhall be in his hands.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the reſolution contained in the ſaid report?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Irwin,*

To re-conſider the vote of the Houſe on the ſaid reſolution.

Which was carried in the affirmative. Whereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 25, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *February* 16th, on the petition of a number of non-reſident and other owners of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of the non-reſident owners of lands report——

That, leaving the other matters contained in the petition to be more maturely conſidered and reported on by them hereafter, the committee confine themſelves for the preſent to a farther ſuſpenſion of the powers of the commiſſioners for the ſale of lands, prayed for, which they are of opinion ought to be granted, and immediately, as the ſuſpending act will expire as early as the 22d day of *March* next: They therefore offer the following reſolution:

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to extend, for a further limited time, the act, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the* "*powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale* "*of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 19th, on the memorial and petition of the merchants, traders and citizens of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the vicinity thereof, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of the merchants and traders, reſpecting vendues, report——

That duly conſidering the ſaid petition, many reaſons occur to them againſt laying the buſineſs of an auctioneer further open, which, in their opinion, counterbalance the diſadvantages complained of in the preſent reſtriction; but that they fully agree with the petitioners in ſentiment, that the tax paid on the ſale of goods in the city of *Philadelphia* and its neighbourhood is a partial and unequal burthen, and as ſuch ſhould be diſcontinued: They therefore offer the following reſolution:

That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill for repealing any law, or part of a law, which ſubjects goods ſold at auction to a duty.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* "An Act for faci-"litating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one "thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the "funded debt of this ſtate; for extending the time for patenting lands "which were located before the declaration of independence, and for giv-"ing a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for "lands by them occupied," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 21ſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette*, beg leave to report the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to divide the county of *Fayette* into election diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their annual elections, agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from a committee of the public creditors was read, remonſtrating againſt that part of the report of the committee on ways and means, which recommends a repeal of ſo much of any act or acts as directs the payment of intereſt on the new-loan debt beyond the firſt day of *April* next, and praying the funding ſyſtem of the ſtate may be inviolably preſerved, and that its appropriated revenues may be faithfully applied to the purpoſes therein aſſigned; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *G. Heiſter*,

That the ſaid memorial be referred to the committee on ways and means.

Which was carried in the negative.

It was then, on motion made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Tyſon*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the election diſtrict of *Auguſta*, in the county of *Northumberland*, read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *White*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *White*, to report thereon.

The petition of *David Miller*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Beale*,

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, read yeſterday, be referred to the members from *Cumberland*, to report thereon.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of *John Cart*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That *John Cart* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee, appointed to confer with Council on the ſubject of an exoneration from the payment of militia fines, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill to inſtitute a Board in each county, conſiſting of the Member of Council, the Lieutenant, and Preſident of the Court of Common Pleas for the ſame, with powers to receive and determine on appeals from the aſſeſſment of militia fines, and to grant exonerations from the payment thereof, in the whole or in part, in caſes of hardſhip or inability.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee read *February* 21ſt, on the petition of 600 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, was read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of ſundry inhabitants of the northern parts of *Cumberland* county, praying for a diviſion of that county, cannot at this time be granted.

It was moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following, *viz.*

Whereas a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the north part of *Cumberland* county have preſented a petition to this Houſe, praying that that part of *Cumberland* county, as deſcribed in their petition, may be erected into a new and ſeparate county.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to erect that part of *Cumberland* county that lies to the north of the river *Juniata* and

Toſcarora mountain (agreeably to the prayer of the inhabitants contained in a petition preſented to this Houſe) into a new and ſeparate county.

Which was carried in the affirmative,

And the reſolution propoſed by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge*, adopted.

Ordered, That the members from *Cumberland* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *February* 26, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Roſs*, late ſailing maſter of the *Arnold* battery in the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath not received any compenſation for his ſervices, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *John Hewſon*, callicoe printer, was read, praying the bill, entituled " *An Act for granting unto* John Hewſon *and* Robert Tay-" lor, *callicoe printers and bleachers, the ſum of* pounds " *each, as an encouragement to them to carry on, in as extenſive a manner as* " *poſſible, ſaid branches of buſineſs*," read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 28th laſt, may be taken into conſideration, and paſſed into a law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

A remonſtrance from a committee of a number of the citizens of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, appointed to preſent and proſecute the petitions againſt theatrical entertainments, was read, praying the bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as* " *prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia, *and the* " *neighbourhood thereof*," may not be enacted in the preſent ſeſſion; and that in the mean time they may be furniſhed with atteſted copies of the names of the ſigners of the petitions for and againſt theatrical exhibitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Eve*, of the county of *Philadelphia*, powder manufacturer, was read, praying, on behalf of himſelf and others, manufacturers of gunpowder, that a duty may be laid on gunpowder imported into this ſtate, and the duty on rough ſalt-petre be taken off, in order to encourage and promote the ſaid manufactories.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* " An Act for raiſing and col-" lecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein mentioned," *as impoſes* " *a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of any riding carriages, other than coaches,* " *chariots, phætons, or other four wheeled chaiſes*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of the* Callowhill *market, in the townſhip of the* "Northern Liberties," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general elections "of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," enacted the thirteenth day of *September*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the incorporation of the College of Phy-* "*ſicians in* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal part of an act, entituled* "An Act "to confirm the eſtates and intereſts of the College, Academy and Chari- "table School of the city of *Philadelphia*, and to amend and alter the char- "ters thereof conformably to the revolution, and to the conſtitution and "government of this commonwealth, and to erect the ſame into an Uni- "verſity," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant to the corporation of the Miniſter,* "*Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the* German *Reformed congregation in the* "*city of* Philadelphia, *in the late province (now ſtate) of* Pennſylvania, *cer-* "*tain lands therein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the* "*poor of the ſaid congregation*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act more effectually to "prevent unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for exportation," "*and to regulate the exportation of flaxſeed, butter and biſcuit in kegs*," and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *February* 27, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *February* 21ſt, on the petition of *James Murray*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of Colonel *James Murray*, beg leave to report——

That in their opinion the prayer thereof cannot be granted: Your committee therefore recommend the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 19th, on the petition of divers owners of marſh and meadow grounds bounded by the river *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, in *Tinicum* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſundry owners of marſh meadow on *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, report——

That in their opinion it is juſt and reaſonable for the owners of meadow land, which is ſo connected as to derive ſecurity from the exterior banks which encloſe the ſame, ſhould contribute a reaſonable proportion of the expence for ſuch defence, which appears to be the ſituation of the owners of marſh meadow on *Delaware* and *Derby* creek: Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, obliging ſundry owners of marſh meadow in the townſhip of *Tinicum*, and county of *Cheſter*, bounding on the river *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, to pay their proportionable part of the expence neceſſary for ſupporting the tide banks of ſaid marſh meadow.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 25th, on the memorial of the committee of the public creditors, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the committee of public creditors, report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of the ſaid memorial, as well as the reaſons offered in ſupport thereof by the memorialiſts, and are perſuaded that it is nevertheleſs proper that an alteration ſhould now take place in the funding ſyſtem, in as much as a conſiderable portion of the revenue heretofore applied towards the payment of the New-Loan debt will immediately go to the government of the United States, and that thoſe revenues which the ſtate can yet retain are inadequate to the ſupport of government, and the ſervices with which they are charged: That one of two things therefore becomes abſolutely neceſſary, that is, to lay new taxes, equal to the exigencies of government; or, to take from the funds heretofore applied to the funding ſyſtem what may be neceſſary to ſupply thoſe deficiencies: The committee, conſidering the firſt as totally improper under our preſent circumſtances, can only recommend the latter; at the ſame time that it is their duty to remark, that the committee of public creditors agree, without difficulty, to have the payment of their intereſt poſtponed, provided no other alteration is made in the funding ſyſtem.

As the report of the committee on ways and means is before the Houſe, and will neceſſarily call for a deciſion on theſe points, the committee think it their duty only to recommend,

That no intereſt ſhall be paid or chargeable to this ſtate upon the New-Loan debt after the intereſt to *April* next is paid, except the United States ſhall make proviſion for the payment of ſuch intereſt to this ſtate; and that ſuch of the New-Loan creditors as chuſe to take back their continental certificates may have liberty to do ſo.

That ſo much of the funds heretofore appropriated to the payment of intereſt under the funding ſyſtem, as may be neceſſary to make good the deficiencies in the other revenues of the ſtate, be applied to that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to erect* Wyoming *townſhip, and that part of* Cataweſſy *and* Mahoning *townſhips herein after deſcribed, in the county of* Northumberland, *into* "*a ſeparate election diſtrict,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly for the* "*relief of inſolvent debtors,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for altering the time of holding the Courts of* "*General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace and Gaol Delivery in the county of* "Bucks," was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid bill.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. *Lewis,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to alter the* "*times of holding the Courts of General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace and* "*Gaol Delivery in the ſeveral counties within this commonwealth;*" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſaid bill was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report read *February* 25th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to divide the county of *Fayette* into four election diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their annual elections, agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Ordered, That Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Philips* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage of Council poſtponed *November* 13th laſt, which reſpects a reviſion of the tax laws, and to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia," and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report poſtponed *February* 16th, on that part of the meſſage from Council reſpecting the vendue laws.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution, propoſed by the committee?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to authoriſe the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to appoint and licence an Auctioneer for the townſhip of *Moyamenſing,* ſubject to the like rules and regulations with the Auctioneers for the city of *Philadelphia,* the diſtrict of *Southwark,* and the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties,* and to prevent all other perſons from ſelling any goods, chattels or real eſtate (except, &c.) at public auction, within the ſaid townſhip, or at any other place within two miles of the State-Houſe in the ſaid city, other than the ſaid Auctioneers, within their reſpective diſtricts.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following reſolution in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of any act as impoſes a duty on the ſale of goods by public auction, and to enable the Supreme Executive Council to licence an Auctioneer for the townſhip of *Moyamenſing*.

Which was carried in the negative, and the original reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Balliot* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the reſolution, as adopted.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the* Newtown *Library Company in* Bucks *county*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *February* 28, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying a perſon may be appointed by law to inſpect all ſhingles to be exported from the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Van Swearingen* and others, late officers in the eighth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that they were engaged for and remained in the ſervice for three years, without having received any compenſation for the depreciation due on their pay, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks*, praying leave to bring in a bill for the better and more effectual relief of the poor, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 4th, 1786, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Robert Beatty *and* Benjamin Moore, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaols of* Cumberland *and* Dauphin *counties*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims made a further report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, on the petition of the Reverend Meſſieurs *Jones*, *Rogers* and *M'Murdie*, chaplains in the late army, beg leave to report——

That the prayer of the petitioners cannot be granted: The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the Reverend Meſſieurs *Jones*, *Rogers* and *M'Murdie*, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

The committee alſo, on the petition of *James Davidſon*, a regimental Surgeon in the late army, beg leave to report——

That the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted: They therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That *James Davidſon* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That credentials of the following form ſhall be prepared, and delivered to the Senators choſen by the Legiſlature of this ſtate, to compoſe, with the Senators of the ſtates who have ratified the conſtitution of the United States, the Senate thereof, and that ſuch credentials ſhall be ſigned by the Speaker, and atteſted by the Clerk of this Houſe.

" State of PENNSYLVANIA, *ſſ.*

" *By the* REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* " PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

" BE it known, that on the thirtieth day of *September*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight, the Honor- " able *William Maclay* and *Robert Morris*, Eſquires, were, by the General " Aſſembly of this ſtate, being the Legiſlature thereof, duly elected and " choſen, at the time and place, and in the manner by the Legiſlature pre- " ſcribed, SENATORS of and from the ſaid ſtate, to compoſe, with the " Senators elected by the Legiſlatures of the ſtates who have ratified the " conſtitution for the United States, the Senate of the United States, agree- " ably to the conſtitution thereof.

" *Signed, by order of the Houſe, this*
" *day of* *in the year of our Lord*
" *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine,*
" *and in the thirteenth year of the Independence*
" *of the United States.*
" SPEAKER.

" ATTEST,
" *Clerk of the General Aſſembly.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſeparating* Newberry *townſhip, in the* " *county of* York, *from the fifth, and annexing the ſame to the firſt election* " *diſtrict of that county,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia *and the neighbourhood thereof*," was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled "*An Act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation*," paſſed on the twenty-fifth day of *September*, which was in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, as reſtrains or prohibits any perſon or perſons from acting, ſhewing or exhibiting, within the city of *Philadelphia*, or within one mile thereof, any tragedy, comedy, tragi-comedy, farce, interlude, pantomime, or other play, or any ſcene or parts of a play whatſoever, or from being concerned or employed therein, or in ſelling any ticket or tickets for that purpoſe, or as inflicts any fine, forfeiture or penalty therefor, or as directs any recognizance to be entered into on account thereof, be, and the ſame is hereby repealed, and made null and void."

It was moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

To inſert, after the words "*on account thereof*," the words, "*be ſuſpended, on condition the actors of ſuch tragedy, comedy, farce, interlude, pantomime, or other play, or part of any play whatſoever, pay into the public treaſury, on or before the firſt day of* March *annually, the ſum of* pounds, *during the continuance of this act, for the uſe herein after directed.*"

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Orth*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Valentine Upp*,
2 *Mark Wilcox*,
3 *Richard Downing*, jun.
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *Jonathan Hoge*,
7 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
8 *Joſeph Sands*,
9 *John Ludwig*,
10 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
11 *John Piper*,
12 *James Alliſon*,
13 *James M'Lene*,
14 *Robert Lollar*,
15 *Jacob Reiff*,
16 *Jonathan Roberts*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *Adam Orth*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M'Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *John M'Dowell*,
14 *Caleb James*,
15 *Alexander Lowrey*,
16 *James Clemſon*,
17 *John Hopkins*,
18 *James Cunningham*,

NAYS.

19 *Jacob Erb,*
20 *Thomas Clingan,*
21 *Thomas Lilley,*
22 *Michael Schmyſer,*
23 *Henry Tyſon,*
24 *David Mitchell,*
25 *Thomas Beale,*
26 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
27 *Daniel Broadhead,*
28 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
29 *Peter Ealer,*
30 *Stephen Balliot,*
31 *Jacob Saylor,*

NAYS.

32 *Samuel Maclay,*
33 *John White,*
34 *John Irwin,*
35 *William Todd,*
36 *James Marſhall,*
37 *John Nevil,*
38 *Alexander Wright,*
39 *John Gilchreeſt,*
40 *Theophilus Philips,*
41 *James Johnſon,*
42 *John Carſon,*
43 *Obadiah Gore,*
44 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Piper*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William Lewis,*
6 *William M'Pherſon,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *John M'Dowell,*
12 *Alexander Lowrey,*
13 *John Hopkins,*
14 *Thomas Lilley,*
15 *Michael Schmyſer,*
16 *Henry Tyſon,*
17 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
18 *Gabriel Heiſter,*

YEAS.

19 *Joſeph Sands,*
20 *Daniel Broadhead,*
21 *John Ludwig,*
22 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
23 *Peter Ealer,*
24 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
25 *Stephen Balliot,*
26 *Samuel Maclay,*
27 *John White,*
28 *John Irwin,*
29 *William Todd,*
30 *James Marſhall,*
31 *John Nevil,*
32 *Jacob Miley,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *Obadiah Gore,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *Mark Wilcox,*
5 *Caleb James,*
6 *Richard Downing,* jun.
7 *James Clemſon,*
8 *James Cunningham,*
9 *Jacob Erb,*

NAYS.

10 *Thomas Clingan,*
11 *Joſeph Reed,*
12 *David Mitchell,*
13 *Thomas Kennedy,*
14 *Thomas Beale,*
15 *Jonathan Hoge,*
16 *Jacob Saylor,*
17 *John Piper,*
18 *James Alliſon,*

NAYS.

19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *James M'Lene,*
23 *James Johnſon,*
24 *Robert Lollar,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Jonathan Roberts,*
27 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 2, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for erecting part of the county of *Bedford* into a ſeparate county," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia *and the neighbourhood thereof,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William Lewis,*
6 *William M'Pherſon,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *John M'Dowell,*
12 *Alexander Lowrey,*
13 *John Hopkins,*
14 *Henry Dering,*
15 *Thomas Lilley,*
16 *Michael Schmyſer,*
17 *Henry Tyſon,*
18 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
19 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
20 *Joſeph Sands,*
21 *Daniel Broadhead,*
22 *John Ludwig,*
23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Peter Ealer,*
25 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
26 *Stephen Balliot,*
27 *John White,*
28 *John Irwin,*
29 *William Todd,*
30 *John Nevil,*
31 *Peter Richards,*
32 *Jacob Miley,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *Obadiah Gore,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *Mark Wilcox,*
5 *Caleb James,*
6 *Richard Downing,* jun.

NAYS.

7 *James Clemſon,*
8 *James Cunningham,*
9 *Jacob Erb,*
10 *Thomas Clingan,*
11 *Joſeph Reed,*
12 *David Mitchell,*
13 *Thomas Kennedy,*
14 *Thomas Beale,*
15 *Jonathan Hoge,*
16 *Jacob Saylor,*
17 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

18 *James Alliſon,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *James M'Lene,*
23 *James Johnſon,*
24 *Robert Lollar,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Jonathan Roberts,*
27 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Lower Smithfield, Hamilton* and *Delaware,* in the county of *Northampton,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petitions for opening a road from the *Wind Gap* of the *Kittatany* mountain to *Wyoming,* and praying, that, ſhould it be deemed expedient to grant a ſum of money for opening or amending a road to *Wyoming,* the ſame may be expended in repairing the old road, commonly called *Sullivan*'s road.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 220 inhabitants of that part of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* which lies to the ſouthward of *Pegg*'s run, and on the eaſt ſide of *Sixth-ſtreet,* was read, praying that the ſaid diſtrict may be comprehended within thoſe regulations which have or may be eſtabliſhed for the government of the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to authoriſe* George Frey, *of* Middletown, *in the county of* Dauphin, "*to ſupport a mill-dam acroſs* Swetara *creek, and to oblige him to maintain a* "*lock and free navigation for boats or other craft, along his mill-race, into* "*his mill-dam,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* read *February* 28th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar,*

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid petition be poſtponed, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to alter and amend the poor laws of this commonwealth.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing reſolution?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Schmyſer,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Broadhead,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Johnſon,* Mr. *Balliot,* Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the ſaid reſolution.

The report read *February* 27th, on the memorial of the public creditors, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Mr. *Lewis*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for granting* "*trials of Niſi Prius in the county of* Philadelphia," and, having obtained leave of the Houſe for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſaid bill was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Lewis*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to aid and faithfully execute an act, entituled* " An Act to aſcertain, fix and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries for the Judges of the Supreme Court," and, having obtained leave of the Houſe for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſaid bill was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of the* Callowhill *market, in the townſhip of the* Northern Liberties," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Robert Beatty *and* Benjamin Moore, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaols of* Cumberland *and* Dauphin *counties*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly* "*reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Mr. *Fitzſimons*, having obtained leave, preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to prevent the " exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for repealing at a " certain time all the laws heretofore made for that purpoſe," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *February* 25th, on the petition of the non-reſident owners of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to extend, for a further limited time, the act, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for ſix* "*months, the powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate* "*to make ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes.*"

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

REASONS of DISSENT of the Minority againſt enacting into a law the bill, entituled " An Act to repeal ſo much of an act of the General Aſſembly " of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments," *&c.*

1. BECAUSE we believe that theatrical exhibitions tend to immorality, and that they gradually promote the deſtruction of thoſe republican manners, abſolutely neceſſary to ſupport the liberties of our country.

2. Becauſe, whilſt we acknowledge the juſt right every man in civil ſociety has to the protection of his perſon and property, we contend that every individual owes to the community, for ſuch protection, certain duties, which cannot be diſpenſed with conſiſtent with the ſafety of the ſociety; and therefore every free government has an undoubted right to preſerve its own exiſtence, by reſtricting the injurious conduct of its citizens.

3. Becauſe reaſoning *a priori* on the effects of public ſhews can contribute but little to the inveſtigation of the ſubject, a knowledge of which muſt be derived from hiſtorical facts, ſupported by the teſtimony of the beſt and moſt enlightened men. *Plutarch*, Sir *Matthew Hale*, Archbiſhop *Tillotſon*, Sir *John Hawkins*; *Home*'s Elements of Criticiſm, *Burgh*'s Dignity of Human Nature, *Montague*'s Decline of the Ancient Republics, all condemn ſtage plays as injurious to civil ſociety. To theſe reſpectable authorities we may add the ſolemn and public declaration of the confederated ſtates of *America* in Congreſs. On the twelfth of *October*, 1778, that body reſolved, “ That whereas true religion and good morals are the only ſolid foundation of public liberty and happineſs, that it be and is hereby earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral ſtates, to take the moſt effectual meaſures for the encouragement thereof, and for the ſuppreſſing theatrical entertainments, horſe-racing, gaming, and ſuch other diverſions as are productive of idleneſs, diſſipation, and a general depravity of principles and manners.”

4. Becauſe we think it improper that the Legiſlature ſhould at this time countenance public amuſements, whilſt ſo many of our fellow-citizens experience the greateſt diſtreſs, whilſt the finances of the ſtate are deranged, and whilſt one of the moſt important queſtions is about to be decided, that ever engaged the attention of a free people. Theſe objects we think merit the ſerious and ſtrict attention of every real friend to his country.

George Logan,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Thomas Kennedy,
James Clemſon,
James Cunningham,
Jonathan Roberts,
Jacob Erb,
Jacob Reiff, ſen.
Samuel Foulke,
Robert Lollar,
David Mitchel,
John Gilchreeſt,
Thomas Beale,
Valentine Upp,
Caleb James,
John Piper,
Adam Orth,
Jacob Saylor,
Joſeph Reed,
James Johnſon,
Mark Wilcox,
James M‘Lene,
Jonathan Hoge,
Alexander Wright,
Theophilus Philips.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 3, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 168 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying ſo much of the act, entituled “ *An Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein mentioned, for the ſupport of government, and*

" *for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" as impoſes a tax upon family waggons and riding chairs, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for granting a part of the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate to* " *the inhabitants of* Northumberland *county, for the uſe of a public ſchool in* " *the ſaid county,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to divide the county of* Fayette *into election diſtricts,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 21ſt, on the petition of *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch,* report——

That however convenient it may be to the petitioner's affairs, it is inexpedient for the ſtate to encourage the numerous applications for lotteries which granting his requeſt would produce; nor would it be proper in any caſe of ſuch import for the legiſlature to interfere in the way the petitioner deſires:

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch* cannot be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* poſtponed yeſterday: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to* " *an act, entituled* " An Act more effectually to prevent unfair practices in " the packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to regulate the export- " ation of flaxſeed, butter and buiſcuit in kegs," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The letter from his Excellency *Beverly Randolph,* Eſquire, with its incloſures, read *February* 7th laſt, were again read: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon,* in the following words, *viz.*

The Houſe, taking into conſideration the letter from the Governor of *Virginia* to the Preſident of this ſtate, and its ſeveral encloſures, tranſmitted by the Supreme Executive Council in their meſſage of the 6th of *February* laſt,

Reſolved, That his Excellency the Preſident be requeſted to aſſure his Excellency Governor *Randolph,* that, accuſtomed to ſentiments of the higheſt reſpect and deference for the Legiſlature of *Virginia,* it muſt ever be painful to the Houſe when obliged to diſſent from the opinion of that Aſſembly upon any point of common concern to the two ſtates, as members of the union; and particularly in a meaſure of ſuch importance as the one now propoſed, the calling of a Convention of the ſtates for amending

ing the fœderal conſtitution, the neceſſity of which they are not able to diſcern, though it is ſo apparent to, and ſo earneſtly inſiſted on, by that Legiſlature.

That though it is poſſible this conſtitution may not be a ſyſtem exempt, in all its parts, from error, yet the Houſe do not perceive it wanting in any of thoſe fundamental principles, which are calculated to inſure the liberties of their country. As it is, they conceive the happineſs of *America* and the harmony of the union to depend altogether on ſuffering it to proceed, undiſturbed in its operations by premature alterations or amendments, which, however plauſible they may be in theory, or neceſſary perhaps to the idea of a perfect form of government, experience, after all, can demonſtrate whether they would be real improvements or not.

That under ſuch forcible impreſſions, the Houſe cannot, conſiſtently with the ſpecial duty they owe to the good people of this ſtate, or with the affection which, in the enlarged ſpirit of patriotiſm, they bear to the citizens of the United States at large, concur with the Legiſlature of *Virginia* in their propoſed application to Congreſs, for calling a Convention of the ſtates for the above mentioned purpoſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 4, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from *William Moore*, Eſquire, of a ſimilar tenor with his memorial read in a late Houſe of Aſſembly, *November* 26th, 1787, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Memorials and remonſtrances from 387 inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of 200 inhabitants of the ſaid townſhip, read *March* 2d inſtant, and praying no part of the aforeſaid townſhip may be annexed to and incorporated with the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 25th, on the petitions of *David Miller* and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *David Miller*, beg leave to report——

That a ferry on the river *Juniata*, on the road from *Carliſle* to *Sunbury*, near the mouth of *Raccoon* creek, will be of public utility, and that the prayer of the petition ought to be granted: Your committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to authorize and empower *David Miller*, at his own coſt and charge, to make convenient landing places for boats and carriages on both ſides of *Juniata* river, on or near the mouth of *Raccoon* creek, and uſe the ſame as landing places for boats and carriages; and alſo to permit *Iſaac Thompſon*, or the owner of the lands on the weſt ſide of ſaid river, to uſe ſaid landing places for the like purpoſes, he paying a moiety of the charges of making the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *March* 2d, the report on the memorial of the committee of the public creditors, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the memorial of the committee of public creditors, report——

That upon the fulleſt conſideration of the reaſons offered by the memorialiſts, the committee do not think it proper to make any alteration in their former report, which they therefore report.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act further to ſuſpend the powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties* " *within this ſtate to make ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate,* " *and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate county,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act to incor-* " *porate the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed until *Friday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal part of an act, entituled* " An Act " to confirm the eſtates and intereſts of the College, Academy and Chari- " table School of the city of *Philadelphia,* and to amend and alter the char- " ters thereof, conformably to the revolution and to the conſtitution and " government of this commonwealth, and to erect the ſame into an Uni- " verſity," was read the third time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of ſaid bill.

Which was determined in the negative.

The Houſe then proceeded to conſider the ſame by paragraphs:

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the following para-* " *graph?*" *viz.*

" Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives " of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſem- " bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That ſo much and all ſuch " parts of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, paſſed on ſaid " twenty-ſeventh day of *November,* in the year of our Lord one thouſand " ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine, entituled " *An Act to confirm the eſtates* " *and intereſts of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of* " Philadelphia, *and to amend and alter the charters thereof, conformably to the* " *revolution and to the conſtitution and government of this commonwealth, and* " *to erect the ſame into an Univerſity,*" as touch, or in any wiſe concern or " relate to the ſaid ancient corporation, which was known by the ſaid name

“ and title of “ The Truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of *Philadelphia*, in the province of *Pennſylvania*,” or the ſaid charters thereof, or either of them, or as touch, or in any wiſe concern or relate to the former rights, franchiſes, immunities or eſtates, real, perſonal or mixed, thereof, or as tend to diſqualify or diſable the ſaid Truſtees to act as a body politic under the charters aforeſaid, or to diſqualify, deprive or diſable the body and faculty of the college and academy, known and diſtinguiſhed in the charter dated the fourteenth day of *May*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-five, by the name, ſtile and title of “ The Provoſt, Vice-Provoſt and Profeſſors of the College and Academy of *Philadelphia*, in the province of *Pennſylvania*,” or any of them, from carrying on the deſign and purpoſes of the ſaid college, academy and charitable ſchool, or to disfranchiſe or deprive them, or any of them, of any privileges, immunities or eſtates whatſoever, or of any part or parcel thereof, or as veſts the ſame, or purports and intends to veſt the ſame, or any part or parts thereof, in “ The Truſtees of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania*,” ſhall be, and the ſame and every ſuch part and parts thereof is and hereby are repealed, and made null and void, to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever.”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William M‘Pherſon*,
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Samuel Foulke*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Mark Wilcox*,
16 *John M‘Dowell*,
17 *Caleb James*,
18 *Richard Downing*, jun.
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *James Clemſon*,
21 *John Hopkins*,
22 *James Cunningham*,

YEAS.

23 *Jacob Erb*,
24 *Henry Dering*,
25 *Thomas Clingan*,
26 *Thomas Lilley*,
27 *Michael Schmyſer*,
28 *Henry Tyſon*,
29 *Daniel Brodhead*,
30 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
31 *Peter Ealer*,
32 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
33 *Stephen Balliot*,
34 *Jacob Saylor*,
35 *John White*,
36 *James Marſhall*,
37 *John Nevil*,
38 *Robert Lollar*,
39 *Jacob Reiff*,
40 *Peter Richards*,
41 *Jonathan Roberts*,
42 *John Carſon*,
43 *Obadiah Gore*,
44 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Jonathan Hoge*,

NAYS.

5 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
6 *Joſeph Sands*,
7 *John Ludwig*,
8 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

9 *John Irwin,*
10 *William Todd,*
11 *James Alliſon,*
12 *Alexander Wright,*
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*

NAYS.

14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *James M'Lene,*
16 *James Johnſon,*
17 *Jacob Miley,*
18 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Truſtees of the college, academy and charitable ſchool aforeſaid, who were deprived and diſabled, or intended ſo to be, by and in purſuance of the ſaid act, and the ſurvivors of them, and their ſucceſſors, by the name, ſtile and title of The Truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of *Philadelphia,* in the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,*” and the Provoſt, Vice-Provoſt and Profeſſors, who, as a faculty, were deprived and diſabled, or intended ſo to be, by and in purſuance of the ſaid act, and the ſurvivors of them, and their ſucceſſors, by the name and ſtile of “ The Provoſt, Vice-Provoſt and Profeſſors of the College and Academy of *Philadelphia,* in the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,*” ſhall be reinſtated and reſtored to all and ſingular the rights, franchiſes, emoluments, offices, truſts and eſtates, real, perſonal and mixed, which they and each of them had, held and enjoyed, or ought or could of right have had, held and enjoyed, or were entitled unto, according to the ſaid charters and the laws and conſtitution of this ſtate, on the ſaid twenty-ſeventh day of *November,* in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine; and they and each of them, and their ſucceſſors, ſhall and may aſk, demand, ſue for, recover and receive the ſame, and each and every part and parcel thereof, and ſhall hold and enjoy, uſe and exerciſe the ſame, and every part and parcel thereof, in the ſame manner, and as fully and freely, as if the ſaid act had never been paſſed; excepting always ſo much of the rents, iſſues and profits of the ſaid real eſtate and eſtates, as were received by the ſaid Truſtees of the Univerſity before the   day of   laſt, which ſhall be conſidered, and they are hereby conſidered, as having been duly, legally and properly laid out and expended in the education of youth, and therefore no account ſhall be rendered thereof; and excepting alſo, ſuch ſum or ſums of money as have been paid in diſcharge of the juſt debts, contracts and engagements of them, “ The Truſtees of the ſaid College, Academy and Charitable School,” entered into and ſubſiſting on and before the twenty-ſeventh day of *November,* in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine; and excepting alſo, ſuch bonds, mortgages and other ſpecialties of the former eſtate of the ſaid laſt mentioned Truſtees, as have been transferred, cancelled or diſcharged by them, the Truſtees of the Univerſity, for the value of which only (without any account of the intereſt actually received) they ſhall be accountable to the Truſtees of the ſaid college, academy and charitable ſchool; and excepting laſtly, certain lots of ground in the town of *Norris,* and county of *Montgomery,* which were given for the public uſe and ſervice of the ſaid county, and certain other lots which have been contacted for, ſold and conveyed by the ſaid Truſtees of the Univerſity, for the purpoſe of building and improving in the ſaid town, for the value of which lots

“ only, as they were contracted for, ſold, and payment received by the ſaid “ Truſtees, they ſhall be liable and accountable to the Truſtees of the ſaid “ college, academy and charitable ſchool; and the ſaid lots, and every of “ them, ſhall be and hereby are confirmed to the ſeveral purchaſers thereof, “ on the payment of the purchaſe money, and arrears thereof yet due, to “ the Truſtees of the ſaid college, academy and charitable ſchool, in the “ ſame manner as ſuch purchaſe money, and arrears thereof yet due, ought “ to have been paid to the Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity, according to the “ ſeveral contracts for the ſale and conveyance of the ſaid lots, duly and “ *bona fide* made by them before the ſaid day of now “ laſt paſt.”

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

To fill up the firſt blank in the ſaid clauſe, ſo as to read “ *before the ſe-* “ *cond day of* March *inſtant*,” and to ſtrike out the words “ *legally and pro-* “ *perly*.”

Which was determined in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey*,

To fill up the latter blanks in the ſaid paragraph, ſo as to read “ *before* “ *the firſt day of* March, *which was in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſe-* “ *ven hundred and eighty-eight*.”

A motion was then made by Mr. *Brodhead*, ſeconded by Mr. *Irwin*,

To poſtpone the motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Lowrey*, in order to fill up the ſaid blanks, ſo as to read “ *before the third day of* Fe- “ bruary *laſt*.”

Which was determined in the affirmative, and the laſt amendment adopted.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the clauſe, as amended?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William M‘Pherſon*,
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Samuel Foulke*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Mark Wilcox*,
16 *John M‘Dowell*,
17 *Caleb James*,
18 *Richard Downing*, jun.
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

20 *James Clemſon*,
21 *John Hopkins*,
22 *James Cunningham*,
23 *Jacob Erb*,
24 *Henry Dering*,
25 *Thomas Clingan*,
26 *Thomas Lilley*,
27 *Michael Schmyſer*,
28 *Henry Tyſon*,
29 *Daniel Brodhead*,
30 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
31 *Peter Ealer*,
32 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
33 *Stephen Balliot*,
34 *Jacob Saylor*,
35 *John White*,
36 *James Marſhall*,
37 *John Nevil*,
38 *Robert Lollar*,

YEAS.

39 *Jacob Reiff,*
40 *Peter Richards,*
41 *Jonathan Roberts,*
42 *John Carſon,*
43 *Obadiah Gore,*
44 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *John Irwin,*
10 *William Todd,*
11 *James Alliſon,*
12 *Alexander Wright,*
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*
14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *James M'Lene,*
16 *James Johnſon,*
17 *Jacob Miley,*
18 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Truſtees " of the ſaid college, academy and charitable ſchool, and their ſucceſſors, by " the name, ſtile and title of " The Truſtees of the College, Academy and " Charitable School of *Philadelphia,* in the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,*" " and the Provoſt, Vice-Provoſt and Profeſſors of the ſaid college and academy, and their ſucceſſors, by the name and ſtile of " The Provoſt, Vice-" Provoſt and Profeſſors of the College and Academy of *Philadelphia,* in the " commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,*" ſhall reſpectively be entitled to, and " ſhall have and purſue the like ſpeedy, ſummary and effectual means and " remedies for regaining and reinſtating themſelves in, and for having and " poſſeſſing themſelves of all and ſingular the rights, franchiſes, offices, truſts, " and immunities and eſtates, real, perſonal and mixed, to which they, or " either or any of them are in and by this act reſtored, or which is hereby " veſted in them, or either or any of them, together with all books, papers " and writings, touching or concerning the ſame, or any part thereof, as " were given, or mentioned and intended to be given, in and by the ſaid *in* " *part recited act,* to the Truſtees of the Univerſity therein mentioned, or " which they could thereby have or purſue, for acquiring or poſſeſſing them-" ſelves of all or any part or parts of the eſtate or eſtates, real, perſonal or " mixed, rights, franchiſes, offices, truſts or immunities, in and by the " ſaid in part recited act transferred to or veſted in them, the ſaid Truſtees " of the Univerſity aforeſaid, or of any books, papers or writings, relating " thereto; and all and every perſon and perſons are hereby enjoined and re-" quired to govern and demean themſelves accordingly, under the like pains " and penalties as are in and by the ſaid act mentioned."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Brodhead,*

To inſert, after the words " *in part recited act,*" the words, " *and alſo* " *in and by any other act or acts of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth.*"

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?*"—

It was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe, as amended, adopted.

And the bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs, On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being* “ *enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William M‘Pherſon,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Mark Wilcox,*
16 *John M‘Dowell,*
17 *Caleb James,*
18 *Richard Downing,* jun.
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *John Hopkins,*
22 *James Cunningham,*

YEAS.

23 *Jacob Erb,*
24 *Henry Dering,*
25 *Thomas Clingan,*
26 *Thomas Lilley,*
27 *Michael Schmyſer,*
28 *Henry Tyſon,*
29 *Daniel Brodhead,*
30 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
31 *Peter Ealer,*
32 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
33 *Stephen Balliot,*
34 *Jacob Saylor,*
35 *John White,*
36 *James Marſhall,*
37 *John Nevil,*
38 *Robert Lollar,*
39 *Jacob Reiff,*
40 *Peter Richards,*
41 *Jonathan Roberts,*
42 *John Carſon,*
43 *Obadiah Gore,*
44 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *John Irwin,*

NAYS.

10 *William Todd,*
11 *James Alliſon,*
12 *Alexander Wright,*
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*
14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *James M‘Lene,*
16 *James Johnſon,*
17 *Jacob Miley,*
18 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for enlarging the time limited by the act,* “ *entituled* “ An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit “ emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for “ redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate; and for extending the “ time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of “ independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers “ for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied,” was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Robinſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas,* in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas the Convention of this ſtate, elected for the purpoſe of conſidering the conſtitution for the government of the United States, did reſolve,

" That it is the opinion of this Convention, that until the Congreſs ſhall " have made their election of a diſtrict for the place of their permanent re- " ſidence, and provided buildings for their accommodation, they may have " the uſe of ſuch of the public buildings within the city of *Philadelphia,* or " any other part of this ſtate, as they may find convenient."

And whereas the members repreſenting the city and county of *Philadelphia* in this Houſe have requeſted that the uſe of the Court-houſe lately erected on part of the State-houſe Square (the property of ſaid city and county) be offered, along with the buildings of the ſtate, for the accommodation of Congreſs, they being properly authorized to propoſe the ſame: Therefore

Reſolved, That the members of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, from this ſtate, be authorized to make a reſpectful offer to Congreſs of the uſe of any or all the public buildings in *Philadelphia,* the property of the ſtate, and of the building lately erected on the State-houſe Square, belonging to the city and county of *Philadelphia,* in caſe Congreſs ſhould at any time incline to make choice of that city for the temporary reſidence of the fœderal government.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* " An " Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein " mentioned, for the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes therein " mentioned," *as impoſes a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of any riding car-* " *riages, other than coaches, chariots, phætons, or other four wheeled chaiſes,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* read *February* 21ſt laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *James,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Johnſon,* Mr. *Richards* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to divide the county of* Fayette *into election* " *diſtricts,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to authoriſe* George Frey, *of* Middletown, " *in the county of* Dauphin, *to ſupport a mill-dam acroſs* Swetara *creek, and* " *to oblige him to maintain a lock and free navigation for boats and other craft,* " *along his mill-race, into his mill-dam,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report of the committee, read *February* 27th, on the petition of divers owners of marſh and meadow ground on the river *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, obliging ſundry owners of marſh meadow in the townſhip of *Tinicum,* and county of *Cheſter,* bounding on the river *Delaware* and *Derby* creek, to pay their proportionable part of the expence neceſſary for ſupporting the tide banks of ſaid marſh meadow.

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Alliſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to erect* Wyoming *townſhip, and that part* " *of* Cataweſſy *and* Mahoning *townſhips herein after deſcribed, in the county of* " Northumberland, *into a ſeparate election diſtrict,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 5, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the committee of the public creditors was read, praying that they may be heard by counſel at the bar of the Houſe, previous to the paſſing of any final reſolution which may have a tendency to alter the funding ſyſtem, or to diminiſh their rights and claims derived under that ſyſtem; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Monday* next, at three o'clock in the afternoon, be aſſigned for the purpoſe of hearing counſel on behalf of the memorialiſts.

The committee appointed *February* 18th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* made report, wich was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, ſtating a number of inconveniencies they labour under on account of their being included in the county aforeſaid, and praying to be annexed to the new county of *Allegheney,* after having paid due attention to the ſubject, and from the beſt information they have been able to collect, they are induced to believe the complaint of a part of the petitioners are well founded: They offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to annex that part of *Waſhington* county to the county of *Allegheney,* included by the following lines; beginning by the *Ohio* river, where the ſtate line croſſes the ſame; from thence in a ſtrait line to *White*'s mill, on *Raccoon* creek; from thence in a direct line to *Armſtrong*'s mill, on *Miller*'s run; and thence in another direct line to *Monongahela* river, oppoſite the mouth of *Perry*'s run, where it ſtrikes the preſent line of *Allegheney* county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to divide the county of* Luzerne *into election diſtricts,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts made report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report—That there is due to *Peter Stewart,* for printing five hundred copies of the bill for incorporating the city of *Philadelphia,* the ſum of *eleven pounds five ſhillings*: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Stewart,* for the ſum of *eleven pounds five ſhillings.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd,* Eſquire, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds,* to pay the contingent expences of the Houſe, and to be accounted for by him.

The committee appointed *February* 21ſt, on the petitions from 1422 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county, report——

That however reſpectable the petitioners may appear in the eyes of the committee, they are aware that applications for the diviſion of counties are, too often applied for, more with a view to the intereſt of individuals, than for the public convenience; and are of opinion that the Legiſlature ſhould be cautious in proceeding on ſuch applications, till time hath been given for obtaining the neceſſary information: That in the preſent caſe, though circumſtances have appeared to the committee favorable to the applicants, they deem it ſafer to defer recommending the meaſure, till time has been given for all parties concerned to be informed of the application: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the petitions, praying for a diviſion of *Cheſter* county, be publiſhed for four weeks in one of the news-papers of this city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 20th laſt, on the petitions for and againſt *Aughwick* creek being declared a public highway, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petitions for and againſt *Aughwick* creek being declared a public highway, having made enquiry reſpecting the ſituation of the country in the neighbourhood of ſaid creek, are of opinion, that declaring the ſame to be a public highway would be of little or no advantage to the public, and would eſſentially injure private property, which the committee are of opinion ſhould never be violated, but to the certain and moſt evident advantage of the community at large: Therefore the committee offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the petition from the county of *Huntingdon,* for declaring *Aughwick* creek a public highway, ought not at this time to be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 11th, on the petition of *Samuel Lehman,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The members of the county of *Philadelphia*, to whom the petition of *Samuel Lebman*, a Collector of taxes for the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, was referred, praying that he may be exonerated from the payment of *ninety-eight pounds fifteen ſhillings and three-pence*, public money, of which he alledges he was robbed, beg leave to report——

That they are of opinion the compenſation made to officers employed to collect the public revenue ſhould be conſidered in the double view of a recompence for their ſervices and a premium for their riſque, at leaſt when no commotion or public danger renders property in an unuſual manner inſecure: That from a contrary opinion being diffuſed throughout the community, frauds may in ſome, and careleſſneſs in many inſtances will probably ariſe, and we fear in moſt caſes the money of the ſtate will be longer delayed from the public treaſury: Your committee, being decided in their opinion on general principles, and not from the particular circumſtances of an individual caſe, have deemed it uſeleſs to enquire particularly into the nature of the alledged robbery, and beg leave to ſubmit the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioner, *Samuel Lehman*, cannot be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial and petition of *William Moore*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Brodhead* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The motion made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon*, *March* 3d, reſpecting the letter from the Governor of the ſtate of *Virginia* to the Preſident of this ſtate, with its incloſures, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wright*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the reſolution contained in the ſaid motion, in order to introduce the following, in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe do concur in opinion with the legiſlature of the commonwealth of *Virginia*, that great and material amendments in the conſtitution lately formed by the Continental Convention, and ſince ratified by a majority of the ſtates, are abſolutely neceſſary to the liberty and ſafety of the good people of the United States.

Reſolved, That the moſt eligible mode of obtaining ſuch amendments, and the only mode in which they may be reaſonably expected, is that which is appointed by the conſtitution itſelf,—the calling a convention of deputies from the ſeveral ſtates, for the purpoſe of taking into conſideration the defects of the conſtitution that have been ſuggeſted by the State Conventions, and reporting ſuch amendments thereto, as may be found neceſſary to the intereſt and happineſs of the people.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare an addreſs to the Congreſs of the United States, requeſting that ſuch Convention, for the purpoſe aforeſaid, may be called without delay, and that the ſame be preſented to Congreſs in the name of the legiſlature of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania.*

On the queſtion,——" *Will the Houſe poſtpone for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"——

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Wright*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *William Todd,*

YEAS.

10 *James Marſhall,*
11 *James Alliſon,*
12 *Alexander Wright,*
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*
14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *James M‘Lene,*
16 *James Johnſon,*
17 *Jacob Miley,*
18 *Adam Orth.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William M‘Pherſon,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Mark Wilcox,*
16 *John M‘Dowell,*
17 *Caleb James,*
18 *Richard Downing,* jun.
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *John Hopkins,*

NAYS.

22 *James Cunningham,*
23 *Jacob Erb,*
24 *Henry Dering,*
25 *Thomas Lilley,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *Henry Tyſon,*
28 *Joſeph Reed,*
29 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
30 *Daniel Brodhead,*
31 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
32 *Stephen Balliot,*
33 *Jacob Saylor,*
34 *John White,*
35 *John Nevil,*
36 *Robert Lollar,*
37 *Jacob Reiff,*
38 *Peter Richards,*
39 *Jonathan Roberts,*
40 *John Carſon,*
41 *Obadiah Gore,*
42 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative; and the original motion recurring, *viz.*

The Houſe, taking into conſideration the letter from the Governor of *Virginia* to the Preſident of this ſtate, and its ſeveral incloſures, tranſmitted by the Supreme Executive Council in their meſſage of the 6th of *February* laſt,

Reſolved, That his Excellency the Preſident be requeſted to aſſure his Excellency Governor *Randolph*, that, accuſtomed to ſentiments of the higheſt reſpect and deference for the legiſlature of *Virginia*, it muſt ever be painful to the Houſe, when obliged to diſſent from the opinion of that Aſſembly upon any point of common concern to the two ſtates, as members of the union; and, particularly, on a meaſure of ſuch importance as the one now propoſed, the calling of a convention of the ſtates for amending the fœderal conſtitution, the neceſſity of which they are not able to diſcern, though it is ſo apparent to and ſo earneſtly inſiſted on by that legiſlature.

That though it is poſſible this conſtitution may not be a ſyſtem exempt, in all its parts, from error, yet the Houſe do not perceive it wanting in any of thoſe fundamental principles, which are calculated to inſure the liberties of their country. As it is, they conceive the happineſs of *America* and the harmony of the union to depend altogether on ſuffering it to proceed, undiſturbed in its operations by premature alterations or amendments, which, however plauſible they may be in theory, or neceſſary perhaps to the idea of a perfect form of government, experience, after all, can demonſtrate whether they would be real improvements or not. That under ſuch forcible impreſſions, the Houſe cannot, conſiſtently with the ſpecial duty they owe to the good people of this ſtate, or with the affection, which, in the enlarged ſpirit of patriotiſm, they bear to the citizens of the United States at large, concur with the Legiſlature of *Virginia* in their propoſed application to Congreſs, for calling a Convention of the ſtates for the above mentioned purpoſe.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William M'Pherſon*,
6 *John Salter*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Mark Wilcox*,
15 *John M'Dowell*,
16 *Caleb James*,
17 *Richard Downing*, jun.
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *James Clemſon*,
20 *John Hopkins*,
21 *James Cunningham*,

YEAS.

22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *Henry Dering*,
24 *Thomas Lilley*,
25 *Michael Schmyſer*,
26 *Henry Tyſon*,
27 *Joſeph Reed*,
28 *Daniel Brodhead*,
29 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
30 *Peter Ealer*,
31 *Stephen Balliot*,
32 *Jacob Saylor*,
33 *John White*,
34 *John Nevil*,
35 *Robert Lollar*,
36 *Jacob Reiff*,
37 *Peter Richards*,
38 *Jonathan Roberts*,
39 *John Carſon*,
40 *Obadiah Gore*,
41 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *David Mitchell*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Jonathan Hoge*,
6 *Joſeph Heiſter*,

NAYS.

7 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
8 *Joſeph Sands*,
9 *John Ludwig*,
10 *John Piper*,
11 *William Todd*,
12 *James Marſhall*,

NAYS.

13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Gilchreeſt,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*

NAYS.

17 *James M'Lene,*
18 *James Johnſon,*
19 *Jacob Miley,*
20 *Adam Orth.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The petition of *Van Swearingen* and others, read *February* 28th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion Mr. *Marſhall,* ſeconded by Mr. *Nevil,*

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Marſhall,* to report thereon.

The motion made by Mr. *Robinſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the members of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States from this ſtate be authoriſed to make a reſpectful offer to Congreſs of the uſe of any or all the buildings in *Philadelphia,* the property of the ſtate, and of the building lately erected on the State-houſe Square, belonging to the city and county of *Philadelphia,* in caſe Congreſs ſhould at any time incline to make choice of that city for the temporary reſidence of the fœderal government.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants reſiding on the weſt ſide of *Schuylkill,* read *February* 24th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas,*

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Brodhead,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *David Miller* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Ordered, That the ſaid report be re-committed.

The report on the petition from 996 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* read *February* 20th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition from *Northumberland* county, for a diviſion of the ſame, cannot be complied with.

The report of the committee on claims, read *February* 28th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Reverend Meſſieurs *Jones, Rogers* and *M'Murdie,* have leave to withdraw their petition.

Reſolved, That *James Davidſon* have leave to withdraw his petition.

On motion of Mr. *Piper,* ſeconded by Mr. *Saylor,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of erecting *Derry* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* into a ſeparate election diſtrict.

Ordered, That the members from *Bedford* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lollar,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Heiſter,* as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to make enquiry, and report to this Houſe, what ſums of money have been paid into the State Treaſury quarterly by the Auctioneers of the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, reſpectively, within the laſt twelve months, in order that the Houſe may aſcertain with preciſion what the duties on public auctions produce, and whether the ſame have been punctually paid, agreeably to law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for compenſating* Evan Owen *for ſupplies by him furniſhed the civil* " *officers of* Northumberland *county, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred* " *and ſeventy-five*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act further to ſuſpend the powers of the com-* " *miſſioners of the ſeveral counties within this ſtate to make ſale of lands for* " *non-payment of taxes*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 6, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Roſs*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Cart*, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 11th laſt, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Truſtees of the county of *Allegheney* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, to authoriſe the Collectors of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington*, reſpectively, to pay unto ſuch perſons as may be appointed, all ſuch ſums of money as each and every of them may collect as county rates and levies within the limits of the ſaid county of *Allegheney*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims made a further report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, on the petition of *Nicholas Reib*, late of the corps of artificers in the ſervice of the United States, praying a further compenſation for his ſervices, beg leave to report——

That the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted.

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the petitioner, *Nicholas Reib*, have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia."

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid " Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen, or any four or more of them (where-

" of

" of the Mayor or Recorder, for the time being, ſhall be one) ſhall have " full power and authority, and they are hereby veſted with full power " and authority, to enquire of, hear, try and determine, agreeably to the " laws and conſtitution of this commonwealth, all larcenies, forgeries, " perjuries, aſſaults and batteries, riots, routs and unlawful aſſemblies, and " all other offences which have been committed, or ſhall be committed " within the ſaid city, which would be cognizable in any County Court " of General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace of or for any county within " this commonwealth, had the ſame offences, or any of them, been com- " mitted within any ſuch county, and to puniſh all perſons who ſhall " be convicted of the ſame offences, or any of them, agreeably to the laws " of this commonwealth; and alſo to enquire of, hear, try and deter- " mine all offences which ſhall be committed within the ſaid city againſt " any of the laws, ordinances, regulations or conſtitutions, that ſhall be " made, ordained or eſtabliſhed in purſuance of this act; and to puniſh " the offender and offenders as by the ſaid laws, ordinances, regulations " or conſtitutions, ſhall be preſcribed or directed; and alſo to impoſe " fines on jurymen and others, according to law, and to levy the ſame; " and to award proceſs, take recognizances for keeping of the peace, for " being of good behaviour, and for appearance or otherwiſe; or commit " to priſon, as occaſion ſhall lawfully require, without being accountable " to the commonwealth for any fines or amercements to be impoſed for " the ſaid offences, or any of them; and generally to do all ſuch matters " and things within the ſaid city, as any Court of General Quarter Seſ- " ſions of the Peace, Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery, of and for " any county within this commonwealth, may or can do within any ſuch " county: And to the ends and intents, and for the purpoſes aforeſaid, " and for ſuch other ends, intents and purpoſes, as are in and by this act " declared or mentioned, the ſaid Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen, or " any four of them, (whereof the Mayor or Recorder, for the time being, " ſhall be one) ſhall have full power and authority, and they are hereby " veſted with full power and authority, to hold and keep a Court of Re- " cord within the ſaid city, four times in each year, by the name, ſtyle and " title of " The Mayor's Court for the city of *Philadelphia*," for the en- " quiring, hearing, trying and determining of the pleas and matters afore- " ſaid, and for the puniſhing of thoſe who ſhall be found guilty thereof, " and for the cauſing of all encroachments in the ſtreets of the ſaid city " and all nuiſances to be removed, and for the puniſhing of the offenders " as the law and uſage ſhall in ſuch caſe require, and for the doing and per- " forming of all ſuch other matters and things as are in and by this act " made cognizable in the ſaid court."

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wright*,

To ſtrike out the words, " *without being accountable to the commonwealth " for any fines or amercements to be impoſed for the ſaid offences, or any " of them.*"

It was then moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To poſtpone the ſaid motion, in order to introduce the following amendment, *viz.*

To inſert, after the words " *the ſaid offences,*" the words, *(" except ſuch " as are or ſhall be by law made payable into the State Treaſury for offences " againſt this commonwealth.")*

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*”—

It was carried in the affirmative.

It was thereupon moved by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell,* as a further amendment to the ſaid clauſe, *viz.*

To ſtrike out the words in the original amendment, “ *offences againſt,*” and to inſert in lieu thereof the words, “ *like offences, cognizable in the* “ *courts of Quarter Seſſions of the ſeveral counties in*”——

Which was determined in the negative;

And the original amendment propoſed by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Fitzſimons* adopted: Whereupon,

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the clauſe, as amended?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Mitchell,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William Lewis,*
6 *William M‘Pherſon,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Samuel Foulke,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *John M‘Dowell,*
17 *Caleb James,*
18 *Richard Downing,* jun.
19 *James Clemſon,*
20 *John Hopkins,*
21 *James Cunningham,*
22 *Jacob Erb,*
23 *Thomas Clingan,*
24 *Thomas Lilley,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *Henry Tyſon,*
27 *Joſeph Reed,*
28 *Thomas Kennedy,*
29 *Thomas Beale,*
30 *Jonathan Hoge,*

YEAS.

31 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
32 *Joſeph Sands,*
33 *Daniel Brodhead,*
34 *John Ludwig,*
35 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
36 *Peter Ealer,*
37 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
38 *Stephen Balliot,*
39 *Jacob Saylor,*
40 *John Piper,*
41 *John White,*
42 *James Barr,*
43 *John Irwin,*
44 *William Todd,*
45 *James Marſhall,*
46 *James Alliſon,*
47 *John Nevil,*
48 *Alexander Wright,*
49 *John Gilchreeſt,*
50 *Theophilus Philips,*
51 *James Johnſon,*
52 *Robert Lollar,*
53 *Jacob Reiff,*
54 *Peter Richards,*
55 *Jonathan Roberts,*
56 *Jacob Miley,*
57 *Adam Orth,*
58 *John Carſon,*
59 *Obadiah Gore,*
60 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*

NAYS.

2 *James M‘Lene.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until ten o’clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 7, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 285 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Greenwood, Fermanagh, Milford, Lack, Wayne, Derry* and *Armagh*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying that ſaid county may be divided.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Guardians of the poor of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that the preſent ſyſtem of poor laws is very defective, and praying for leave to bring in a bill to remedy the ſeveral defects thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the city and county of *Philadelphia*, with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

A petition from 253 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Albany, Brunſwick, Windſor*, and the upper diviſion of *Bern*, in the county of *Berks*, was read, praying they may be erected into a ſeparate diſtrict, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act to erect the townſhip of* Derry, *in the county of* Bedford, *into a ſeparate* “ *election diſtrict*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia ;” and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſaid bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of* “ *being enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M‘Lene*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M‘Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Samuel Foulke*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *John M‘Dowell*,
16 *Richard Downing*, jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *James Clemſon*,

YEAS.

19 *John Hopkins*,
20 *James Cunningham*,
21 *Jacob Erb*,
22 *Thomas Lilley*,
23 *Michael Schmyſer*,
24 *Henry Tyſon*,
25 *Joſeph Reed*,
26 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
27 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
28 *Joſeph Sands*,
29 *Daniel Brodhead*,
30 *John Ludwig*,
31 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
32 *Peter Ealer*,
33 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
34 *Stephen Balliot*,
35 *Jacob Saylor*,
36 *John White*,

YEAS.

37 *James Barr,*
38 *John Irwin,*
39 *William Todd,*
40 *James Marſhall,*
41 *James Alliſon,*
42 *John Nevil,*
43 *Alexander Wright,*
44 *John Gilchreeſt,*
45 *Theophilus Philips,*

YEAS.

46 *James Johnſon,*
47 *Jacob Reiff,*
48 *Peter Richards,*
49 *Jonathan Roberts,*
50 *Jacob Miley,*
51 *Adam Orth,*
52 *John Carſon,*
53 *Obadiah Gore,*
54 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*

NAYS.

4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *John Piper,*
6 *James M'Lene.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal all the laws or acts of Aſſembly requiring any oath or affirmation of allegiance from the inhabitants of this commonwealth, and for certain other purpoſes,*" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until half paſt two o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, March 9, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from the commiſſioners of the county of *Philadelphia* was read, praying for a reviſal and alteration of the law, which authoriſes the Juſtices of the Quarter Seſſions of the Peace to order payment out of the county ſtock for lands taken up in public roads through improved grounds.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jedediah Morſe* was read, ſetting forth that he has compiled and nearly compleated a book, entituled, "The *American* Geography," which is printing in a neighbouring ſtate, and praying he may be entitled to the excluſive right of ſelling and vending the copies thereof within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 19th laſt, on the petition of *Gabriel Coxe,* and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallandigham* and *Andrew Swearingen,* beg leave to report——

That it appears to your committee, from the beſt information they have been able to obtain on this ſubject, that the monies recovered from *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallandigham* and *Andrew Swearingen,* as ſet forth in their petition, were for militia ſervices performed on the frontiers of this commonwealth, at a time when the ſaid ſervices were eſſentially neceſſary for the protection and ſafety of the frontier inhabitants, and at a time when the militia of that county could not be called out under the law, on account of a diſpute then exiſting between this ſtate and that of *Virginia.*

Your committee are of opinion that it is juſt and reaſonable the ſaid ſervices ſhould be rewarded, in like manner as thoſe of other militia of this ſtate: Therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to receive and ſettle the accounts of *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallandigham* and *Andrew Swearingen,* for the militia pay and rations of Captain *Thomas Bay,* and the company under his command, employed in the defence of the frontiers of this commonwealth in the year 1780, and iſſue certificates for the ſame, in like manner as to other militia of this ſtate, a pay-roll of the time and ſervices of ſaid company to be firſt preſented, and properly atteſted by the ſaid Captain.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d laſt, to reviſe the criminal laws of this ſtate, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to reviſe the criminal laws of this ſtate, and to report ſuch alterations therein as might be deemed neceſſary, being alſo a committee on that part of the meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council which relates to the ſame ſubject, beg leave to report——

That from a doubt of the right to take away the life of man, except where it is expreſly authoriſed by him who gave it—from an earneſt wiſh to reform the profligate, by a due execution of a wiſe but lenient ſyſtem of laws, and from an anxious deſire to afford ſecurity to the lives and property of the good people of this commonwealth, without the ſhedding of human blood—they have ſeriouſly reflected on the important buſineſs committed to them. The laudable intentions of a former Houſe on this ſubject have proved ineffectual, and experience has evinced, that unleſs a wiſer ſyſtem of benevolence can be adopted, a more ſanguinary one will be revived. Under theſe impreſſions, your committee offer the following reſolutions, *to wit,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to declare the preſent work-houſe in the city of *Philadelphia,* or ſo much thereof as ſhall be neceſſary, with the benefit of the eaſt yard, to be the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* for the confinement of debtors, and of perſons charged with or convicted of miſdemeanors, in order that their morals may not be corrupted by a communication with felons, and to cauſe ſuch alterations in the apartments thereof to be made, as will render it more convenient for the purpoſes aforeſaid; and alſo to reſerve the remainder of the ſaid work-houſe for its preſent purpoſes, or to extend the ſame by an enlargement thereof, if it ſhall be neceſſary, with the benefit of the weſt yard.

And whereas the preſent mode of employing felons convict is on experience found to be highly pernicious to ſociety, and to anſwer but few, if any, of the good purpoſes intended by the exiſting law, and it is conceived that the ſame will be beſt effected by ſubjecting them to hard labour and ſolitary confinement; and whereas the finances of this commonwealth will not, in their preſent ſtate, admit of the erecting and eſtabliſhing ſufficient buildings in each county for the purpoſes aforeſaid, but as the goal of the ſaid city and county is very large, and may be rendered convenient for the confining and employing of malefactors, as it is accommodated with a large yard and two ſmaller ones, ſurrounded by ſtrong walls, ſo as to afford the neceſſary ſeparations for employing them in the working of raw materials and otherwiſe, and as the whole of the ſaid building may at a ſmall expence be effectually ſecured, and the neceſſary parts thereof be warmed by flues, it is conceived that ſociety will be greatly benefited, by eſtabliſhing the ſame as a place for the confining and employing of all felons convict within this commonwealth of offences not capital: Therefore

Reſolved, That the ſaid committee be inſtructed to inſert one or more clauſes in the ſaid bill, for the purpoſe of ſeparating and ſpecially appropriating ſo much of the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia* as may be neceſſary, together with one of the ſmall yards, for the ſole and excluſive purpoſe of confining all ſuch felons charged or convict within the ſaid city and county of *Philadelphia,* as the proviſions herein after recommended ſhall not extend to, and for placing the ſame under the care and cuſtody of the officer to be appointed in the manner herein after mentioned; and to declare the remainder of the ſaid gaol to be a place for the confinement at hard labour of all felons convict of any felony or felonies not capital by the laws of this commonwealth; and for the eſtabliſhing of the ſame (in ſuch manner nevertheleſs as not to deprive the city and county of *Philadelphia* of the fee ſimple thereof, or of their eſtate therein) for the purpoſe aforeſaid, under the care and management of an officer, for that purpoſe to be appointed by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council, on his giving ſufficient ſecurity for his good conduct; and alſo to enable him to appoint his turnkeys and other deputies, to make him accountable, under proper rules and limitations, for their conduct, and anſwerable, under the like rules and limitations, for all negligent as well as willful eſcapes permitted or ſuffered, either by his deputies or himſelf; to ſubject the ſaid felons convict to additional puniſhments for eſcaping, and more eſpecially for any offences committed by them after ſuch eſcapes made; to make proviſion for the removal of all ſuch felons convict as aforeſaid to the ſaid place of confinement; to cut off all kind of intercourſe and communication between them and other perſons, and for that purpoſe to provide, that no perſon ſhall be permitted to enter the ſaid gaol (other than the neceſſary keepers) without a licence being firſt obtained from ; and alſo to provide, that all the outward windows, or ſo many of them as occaſion may require, ſhall be walled up and effectually ſtopped; to authorize the ſaid gaol to be examined by proper perſons, and ſtrengthened in ſuch a manner as to effectually ſecure the priſoners from eſcaping; to provide that the neceſſary works and means ſhall be provided for employing, at proper hours, the ſaid felons convict at hard labour, either in the yard, under the inſpection of proper keepers, or in their rooms or cells; to cauſe the rooms, or ſo many of them as ſhall be neceſſary, to be divided, and cells provided for their ſolitary and ſeparate abode and employment, at night, or during the day, as occaſion may require, and for cauſing the ſame to be effectually ſecured and warmed with flues or otherwiſe; and eſpecially to cauſe ſo much of the ſaid gaol, and one of the ſmall yards, to be appropriated for the confinement at hard labour of female felons convict, in ſuch a manner as to prevent any communication between the ſexes; and finally to provide that no ſpirituous liquors ſhall be introduced into the ſaid gaol, and that the expences from time to time ariſing from the confining, employing and ſupporting of the ſaid felons convict ſhall be borne by the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and by each of the other counties, in proportion to the number of convicts ſent from each of them, and that the profits ariſing from the labour of the ſaid felons convict ſhall be credited to the ſaid city, and each of the ſaid counties, in the like proportion.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Council on behalf of the public creditors were admitted to the bar of the Houſe, and having gone through their arguments, the Houſe

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 10, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the four *German* Reformed Congregations of the town of *Eaſton*, the townſhips of *Bethlehem* and *Plainfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, and of the townſhip of *Greenwich*, in the county of *Suſſex*, and State of *New-Jerſey*, was read, ſetting forth, that they purchaſed a houſe and lot of ground thereunto belonging, ſituated in the town of *Eaſton* aforeſaid, for the uſe of the miniſter of the ſaid congregations, but the ſame is now found to be improperly ſituated, and does not anſwer the deſign for which it was purchaſed; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the premiſes to be ſold, and the monies ariſing therefrom to be laid out in the purchaſe of another houſe and lot of ground more ſuitable and convenient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* was read, praying that a part of the lands appropriated for the endowment of public ſchools may be granted for the ſupport of a ſchool lately erected in *Norriton*, in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Franklin* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, for eſtabliſhing and endowing a ſeminary of learning in the town of *Greencaſtle*, in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March 10th,* 1789.

SIR,

THE State-Houſe requiring ſome repairs, Council appointed Meſſieurs *Colliday, Hicks* and *Rakeſtraw* to examine the ſeveral parts of the building, and to report an eſtimate of the expence of the repairs which are at this time neceſſary, which eſtimate I have the honor of encloſing to you, to be laid before the General Aſſembly. I have the honor to be, with great reſpect,

S I R,

Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the incloſed eſtimate was alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Francis White,* confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* by warrant under the hands and ſeals of the Commiſſioners of Bankruptcy, was read, praying he may be releaſed from further impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 9th, on the petition of *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney of *James Rumſey,* &c. made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney of *James Rumſey,* and the remonſtrance of *John Fitch,* report——

That the matters referred leading them into the general conſideration of a power of granting excluſive rights to the benefits ariſing from new diſcoveries or inventions, the committee conceive it a power which ought to reſide in a body better poſſeſſed, than the Legiſlature can be, of the means of enquiring and examining into their originality and merits; for which reaſon they offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, veſting a power in the   of granting patents, and to ſecure to original diſcoverers and inventors, their heirs and aſſigns (any exiſting law or laws to the contrary notwithſtanding) the excluſive right of and the benefits ariſing from their diſcoveries and inventions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 21ſt laſt, on the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon,* report——

That although they are ſenſible of the diſtreſſed ſituation of the petitioner, yet they cannot conceive that this Houſe can with propriety extend relief to her caſe: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the prayer in the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon* cannot be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to reviſe the criminal laws of this ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to declare the preſent work-houſe in the city of *Philadelphia,* or ſo much thereof as ſhall be neceſſary, with the benefit of the eaſt yard, to be the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* for the confinement of debtors, and of perſons charged with or convicted of miſdemeanors, in order that their morals may not be corrupted by a communication with felons, and to cauſe ſuch alterations in the apartments thereof to be made, as will render it more convenient for the purpoſes aforeſaid; and alſo to reſerve the remainder of the ſaid work-houſe for its preſent purpoſes, or to extend the ſame by an enlargement thereof, if it ſhall be neceſſary, with the benefit of the weſt yard.

And whereas the preſent mode of employing felons convict is on experience found to be highly pernicious to ſociety, and to anſwer but few, if any, of the good purpoſes intended by the exiſting law, and it is conceived that the ſame will be beſt effected by ſubjecting them to hard labour and ſolitary confinement; and whereas the finances of this commonwealth will not, in their preſent ſtate, admit of the erecting and eſtabliſhing ſufficient buildings in each county for the purpoſes aforeſaid, but as the goal of the ſaid city and county is very large, and may be rendered convenient for the confining and employing of malefactors, as it is accommodated with a large yard and two ſmaller ones, ſurrounded by ſtrong walls, ſo as to afford the neceſſary ſeparations for employing them in the working of raw materials and otherwiſe, and as the whole of the ſaid building may at a ſmall expence be effectually ſecured, and the neceſſary parts thereof be warmed by flues, it is conceived that ſociety will be greatly benefited, by eſtabliſhing the ſame as a place for the confining and employing of all felons convict within this commonwealth of offences not capital: Therefore

Reſolved, That the ſaid committee be inſtructed to inſert one or more clauſes in the ſaid bill, for the purpoſe of ſeparating and ſpecially appropriating ſo much of the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia* as may be neceſſary, together with one of the ſmall yards, for the ſole and excluſive purpoſe of confining all ſuch felons charged or convict within the ſaid city and county of *Philadelphia*, as the proviſions herein after recommended ſhall not extend to, and for placing the ſame under the care and cuſtody of the officer to be appointed in the manner herein after mentioned; and to declare the remainder of the ſaid gaol to be a place for the confinement at hard labour of all felons convict of any felony or felonies not capital by the laws of this commonwealth; and for the eſtabliſhing of the ſame (in ſuch manner nevertheleſs as not to deprive the city and county of *Philadelphia* of the fee ſimple thereof, or of their eſtate therein) for the purpoſe aforeſaid, under the care and management of an officer, for that purpoſe to be appointed by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council, on his giving ſufficient ſecurity for his good conduct; and alſo to enable him to appoint his turnkeys and other deputies, to make him accountable, under proper rules and limitations, for their conduct, and anſwerable, under the like rules and limitations, for all negligent as well as willful eſcapes permitted or ſuffered, either by his deputies or himſelf; to ſubject the ſaid felons convict to additional puniſhments for eſcaping, and more eſpecially for any offences committed by them after ſuch eſcapes made; to make proviſion for the removal of all ſuch felons convict as aforeſaid to the ſaid place of confinement; to cut off all kind of intercourſe and communication between them and other perſons, and for that purpoſe to provide, that no perſon ſhall be permitted to enter the ſaid gaol (other than the neceſſary keepers) without a licence being firſt obtained from ; and alſo to provide, that all the outward windows, or ſo many of them as occaſion may require, ſhall be walled up and effectually ſtopped; to authorize the ſaid gaol to be examined by proper perſons, and ſtrengthened in ſuch a manner as to effectually ſecure the priſoners from eſcaping; to provide that the neceſſary works and means ſhall be provided for employing, at proper hours, the ſaid felons convict at hard labour, either in the yard, under the inſpection of proper keepers, or in their rooms or cells; to cauſe the rooms, or ſo many of them as ſhall be neceſſary, to be divided, and cells provided for their ſolitary and ſeparate abode and employment, at night, or during the day, as occaſion may require, and for cauſing the ſame to be effectually ſecured and warmed with flues or otherwiſe; and eſpecially to cauſe ſo much of the ſaid gaol, and one of the ſmall yards, to be appropriated for the confinement at hard labour of female felons convict, in ſuch a manner as to prevent any communication between the ſexes; and finally to provide that no ſpirituous liquors ſhall be introduced into the ſaid gaol; and that the expences from time to time ariſing from the confining, employing and ſupporting of the ſaid felons convict ſhall be borne by the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and by each of the other counties, in proportion to the number of convicts ſent from each of them, and that the profits ariſing from the labour of the ſaid felons convict ſhall be credited to the ſaid city, and each of the ſaid counties, in the like proportion.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

On motion of Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *February* 24th, to examine into the powers of the Comptroller-General, and the mode of tranſacting buſineſs in that office, be inſtructed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, and to report thereon.

The petition of the Truſtees of the county of *Allegheney*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington*, to report thereon.

The petition of 83 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, owners of lands at and near *Wyoming*, read *February* 12th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the ſeveral petitions on the ſame ſubject preſented this ſeſſion, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Downing*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Johnſton*, Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Gore*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Cart*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of the Commiſſioners of the county of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The report read *November* 12th, on that part of the meſſage from Council reſpecting the donation lands, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report read *November* 20th, on the petition of the Truſtees of *Waſhington Academy*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Truſtees of *Waſhington Academy* cannot be complied with.

The report read *February* 14th, on that part of the meſſage from Council reſpecting the boundary lines of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to eſtabliſh the boundary lines of this ſtate, as they have been run and compleated by the reſpective Commiſſioners appointed for the purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *February* 14th, on that part of the meſſage from Council reſpecting engravings of the boundary lines of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, empowering the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council to direct engravings of the boundary lines of this ſtate, and the publication of the reports of the commiſſioners who compleated the ſame, together with ſuch notes and obſervations of ſaid commiſſioners as in the opinion of Council may be uſeful and neceſſary to preſerve, and to iſſue an order or orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the payment of the expences thereby incurred.

Ordered, That the laſt named committee bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *February* 13th, on the petition of the commiſſioners of *Northumberland* county, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That it will not be expedient to comply with the requeſt contained in the petition of the commiſſioners of *Northumberland* county.

The report read *March* 3d, on the petition of *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Ernſt Ludwig Baiſch* ought not to be granted.

The report of the committee of accounts relative to an account of *Peter Steward,* read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report read *March* 5th, on the petitions for and againſt declaring *Aughwick* creek a public highway, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon,* praying this Houſe to declare *Aughwick* creek a public highway, ought not at this time to be granted.

The report read *March* 5th, on the petition of *Samuel Lehman,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioner, *Samuel Lehman,* cannot be granted.

The report read *March* 5th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to annex that part of *Waſhington* county to the county of *Allegheney,* included in the following lines; beginning at the *Ohio* river, where the ſtate line croſſes the ſame; from thence in a ſtrait line to *White*'s mill, on *Raccoon* creek; from thence in a direct line to *Armſtrong*'s mill, on *Miller*'s run; and thence in another direct line to *Monongahela* river, oppoſite the mouth of *Perry*'s run, where it ſtrikes the preſent line of *Allegheney* county.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Ludwig,* Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Philips* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *March* 6th, on the petition of *Nicholas Reib,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Nicholas Reib* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for granting trials at Niſi Prius in the county of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 11, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton,* in the county of *Northampton,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of erecting the ſaid town into a borough; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from *William Clingan* was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of a certificate granted to *John Bellows,* late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, for the depreciation due on his pay, and purchaſed by the petitioner for a valuable conſideration, therefore praying a new one may be granted unto him, in lieu of the one of which he hath been ſo robbed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

A petition from *William Haſſall,* of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 24th laſt, was read, praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *John Fitch* was read, remonſtrating againſt the report read yeſterday on the petition of *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney of *James Rumſey,* &c. and praying he may be heard by Counſel, on behalf of himſelf and aſſociates, at the bar of this Houſe, againſt the tenor of the ſaid report.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 19th, on the petitions for and againſt the fiſheries in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petitions of ſundry inhabitants of the county and borough of *York* reſpecting the fiſheries in *Codorus* and *Conewago* rivers, report——

That from the beſt information your committee could obtain, the preſent act in force to regulate the fiſhery in ſaid rivers does not anſwer the end intended; but as it would be unreaſonable and unjuſt to oblige owners of dams for mills and other water works to erect and keep in repair platforms, as prayed for in the petitions for the fiſheries, yet nevertheleſs it may be admiſſible for the petitioners to have leave to erect ſuch platforms at their own expence, for the purpoſe of fiſh to paſs over: Therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating the fiſhery* "*in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, *in* York *county*," paſſed *March* 9th, 1771, and to allow the petitioners in favour of the fiſhery to erect ſuch and ſo many platforms, at their own expence, ſo as not to injure the dams already erected or to be erected, as to them ſhall appear neceſſary for the fiſh to paſs over.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *February* 21ſt, on the petition of *John Franklin*, be diſcharged.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Chapman*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following motion in lieu thereof, *viz.*

The Houſe, taking into conſideration the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon*, and finding her caſe to be very ſingular and diſtreſſing, are of opinion that her ſituation deſerves their attention; and as the ſuſpenſion of the ſale of the land for ſome time would be an inconſiderable loſs to the commonwealth, the prayer of the petitioner appears reaſonable: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſted to ſuſpend the ſale of the real eſtate of *Robert Robertſon*, deceaſed, now under a judgment in favour of the commonwealth againſt the adminiſtrators, until the further order of this or a ſucceeding Aſſembly.

Which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid motion lie on the table.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of *Joſeph Barnes*, Attorney to *James Rumſey*, *&c.* was read the ſecond time.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to take up for a ſecond reading the memorial of *John Fitch*, read this forenoon.

Which was carried in the affirmative,

And the memorial of *John Fitch* read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next, at three o'clock, P. M. be aſſigned to hear Mr. *Richard Wells*, on behalf of *John Fitch* and his aſſociates, and *Miers Fiſher*, Eſquire, on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes*, Attorney to *James Rumſey*.

The report of the committee on ways and means, read *February* 17th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the conſideration of the ſaid report, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 12, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Peter Schaffner*, collector of taxes within the borough of *Lancaſter* for the years 1782 and 1783, was read, ſetting forth, that on a ſettlement of his accounts with the Commiſſioners of ſaid county a balance remains due from him in diſcharge of the ſaid taxes, and praying certificates of debts due from the public, and by him received in payment, may be alſo received by the ſtate in ſatisfaction of their claim.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act more "effectually to prevent unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for "exportation," *and to regulate the exportation of flaxſeed, butter and biſcuit* "*in kegs*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for annexing part of the county of* Waſhington *to the county of* Allegheney," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* Eaſton, *in the county of* Northampton, *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal all the laws or acts of Aſſembly* "*requiring any oath or affirmation of allegiance from the inhabitants of this* "*commonwealth, and for certain other purpoſes*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the title of the bill?*"—

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To amend the title, ſo as to read as follows, *viz.*

"*An Act to repeal all the laws of this commonwealth requiring any oath or* "*affirmation of allegiance from the inhabitants thereof.*"

Which was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Mr. *Lewis*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to prevent the* "*granting of ſpecial courts on the plaintiff*'s *application*;" and having obtained leave of the Houſe for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſame was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Irwin*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating* "*certain election diſtricts in the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Allegheney," and having obtained leave of the Houſe for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſame was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the four *German* congregations of the town of *Eaſton*, the townſhips of *Bethlehem* and *Plainfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, *&c.* read *March* 10th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to divide the county of* Luzerne *into election* " *diſtricts*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

Reſolved, That the Juſtices of the Supreme Court be requeſted to give their attendance to-morrow afternoon, when the arguments on the ſubject of *John Fitch*'s memorial are to be heard.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for compenſating* Evan Owen *for ſupplies* " *by him furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county, in the year* " *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 13, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Board of Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Society, for the encouragement of manufactures and uſeful arts, ſuggeſting the propriety of encouraging the growth of hemp within this ſtate by liberal bounties, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal all the laws of this commonwealth* " *requiring any oath or affirmation of allegiance from the inhabitants thereof*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The committee on claims made a further report in part, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims report——

That they have had under their conſideration the petition of *Thomas M'Fall*, formerly a ſoldier in the fifth *Pennſylvania* regiment, wounded at *Fort Waſhington*, and find his caſe particularly hard, in as much as he is nearly rendered incapable of getting his living, and not now within the proviſions of the acts for granting penſions to diſabled ſoldiers: The committee however, conſidering the danger of eſtabliſhing a precedent for claims of this kind, can only recommend,

That *Thomas M'Fall* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act empowering certain Truſtees therein named to ſell and diſpoſe of a* " *certain houſe and lot of ground, ſituate in the town of* Eaſton, *and county of* " Northampton, *and to appropriate the monies ariſing from the ſale thereof* " *towards the purchaſe of a parſonage or dwelling for the miniſter of the four* " *Proteſtant Evangelic Reformed* German *congregations*, to wit, *that of* Eaſton,

" Bethlehem, Plainfield *and* Greenwich *townſhips, for the time being,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of* Robert Beatty *and* Benjamin " Moore, *inſolvent Collectors, confined in the gaols of* Cumberland *and* Dau" phin *counties,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident, read *March* 10th, was read the ſecond time, together with the incloſed eſtimate of the expence of the neceſſary repairs of the State-houſe: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,*

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee on ways and means, read *February* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the firſt reſolution contained in the ſaid report, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the intereſt due and to become due upon the *fifty thouſand pounds* loaned by the act of *March,* 1785, the fees received in the Land-Office and by the Secretary of Council, the monies received for court fines and forfeitures, together with the reſidue of the monies ariſing from tavern and marriage licences, after the payment of the Judges ſalaries, be appropriated towards the payment of the expences of government.

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon,*

To inſert, after the word " *government,*" the words, " *and that* " *be further provided, to make good the ſum neceſſary for* " *this purpoſe.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution, as amended, adopted.

The ſecond reſolution being then before the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *ten thouſand pounds* be annually ſet apart out of the revenue of this ſtate, as a fund for the payment of ſuch claims as are not otherwiſe provided for, the opening and improvement of roads and inland navigation, and the encouragement of domeſtic manufactures, as the legiſlature may by law direct.

It was, on motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

And in debating the third reſolution contained in the ſaid report, *viz.*

Reſolved, That ſo much of any act or acts as directs the payment of intereſt on the New-Loan debt beyond the firſt day of *April* next be repealed; that after the payments are compleated to the firſt day of *April,* they ſhall then ceaſe and determine; and that the impoſts (other than the protecting duties) which are now or hereafter may become due, till the aſſumption of that revenue by the United States, be excluſively applied to that purpoſe.

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Johnſon,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following, as a ſubſtitute, *viz.*

Reſolved, That no intereſt ſhall be paid on the New-Loan debt after the accruing intereſt to the firſt of *April* next is paid, until ſuch time as the United States ſhall make proviſion for the payment of ſuch intereſt to this ſtate; and the money, when ſo paid to this ſtate by the United States on account of ſaid intereſt, ſhall be applied to the payment of the intereſt on the New-Loan debt, and to no other purpoſe whatſoever; and the impoſts which now are or hereafter may become due ſhall be collected, and, until the aſſumption of that revenue by the United States (other than the protecting duties) ſhall be excluſively applied to the payment of the intereſt ſo accrued before the ſaid firſt of *April*.

Reſolved, That ſuch of the New-Loan creditors as chuſe to take back their original certificates, on application to the Comptroller-General, ſhall be entitled to receive them, they returning the certificates which they received in exchange from him, or other certificates of equal amount.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the pur-*" *poſe aforeſaid?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *G. Heiſter*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Moore*,
2 *Joſeph Reed*,
3 *David Mitchell*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *Thomas Beale*,
6 *Jonathan Hoge*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *John Ludwig*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Stephen Balliot*,
13 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

14 *James Barr*,
15 *John Irwin*,
16 *James Marſhall*,
17 *James Alliſon*,
18 *John Nevil*,
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,
21 *James M'Lene*,
22 *James Johnſon*,
23 *Robert Lollar*,
24 *Peter Richards*,
25 *Jacob Miley*,
26 *Adam Orth*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William M'Pherſon*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Mark Wilcox*,
14 *John M'Dowell*,
15 *Caleb James*,
16 *Richard Downing*, jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *James Clemſon*,
19 *John Hopkins*,
20 *James Cunningham*,

NAYS.

21 *Jacob Erb*,
22 *Henry Dering*,
23 *Thomas Clingan*,
24 *Thomas Lilley*,
25 *Michael Schmyſer*,
26 *Henry Tyſon*,
27 *Daniel Brodhead*,
28 *Peter Ealer*,
29 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
30 *Jacob Saylor*,
31 *Samuel Maclay*,
32 *John White*,
33 *William Todd*,
34 *Theophilus Philips*,
35 *Jacob Reiff*,
36 *Jonathan Roberts*,
37 *John Carſon*,
38 *Obadiah Gore*,
39 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Beale*,

To ſtrike out the word "*repealed*," and, in lieu thereof, to inſert "*ſuſpended for the term of two years*;" and to inſert, after the word "*determine*," the words "*during the aforeſaid term of years.*"

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid amendments?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The original reſolution then recurring,

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the Houſe of the eleventh inſtant (the Judges of the Supreme Court attending) Mr. *Richard Wells* was heard on behalf of *John Fitch* and his aſſociates: Whereupon

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next, at three o'clock, P. M. be aſſigned to hear *Miers Fiſher*, Eſquire, on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes*, Attorney to *James Rumſey*.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 14, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the third reſolution contained in the report of the committee on ways and means, under conſideration yeſterday: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lilley*,

To ſtrike out the words "April *next*," and the word "April," and, in lieu thereof, to inſert the words "October *laſt*," and the word "October."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the amendments propoſed?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The original reſolution then recurring, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That ſo much of any act or acts as directs the payment of intereſt on the New-Loan debt beyond the firſt day of *April* next be repealed; that after the payments are compleated to the firſt of *April*, they ſhall then ceaſe and determine; and that the impoſts (other than the protecting duties) which are now or hereafter may become due, till the aſſumption of that revenue by the United States, be excluſively applied to that purpoſe.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, March 16, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, praying he may be allowed an additional clerk, for the purpoſe of entering in a book all accounts by him ſettled.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburg*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying an act may be paſſed, declaring the whole of the ſaid townſhip to be a part of ſaid county of *Cumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Folſom* was read, ſetting forth, that he has invented a method of making all kinds of nails, ſprigs and brads, by cutting, without the uſual mode of drawing, and praying this Houſe to grant unto him, his heirs and aſſigns, for a term of years, the ſole and excluſive right of making and vending the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for the more effectual collection of the poor tax in the city of* Philadel- " phia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and the* " Northern Liberties, *and to provide in a more convenient and ſalutary manner* " *for the confinement of diſorderly perſons found and apprehended in the ſaid* " *city, diſtrict and townſhips*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Fitzſimons*, in his place, read a bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an* " *act, entituled* " An Act to eſtabliſh a board of Wardens for the port of " *Philadelphia*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," and having obtained leave for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſaid bill was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Robert Roſs*, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Ihrie*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Francis White*, read *March* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Daniel Murphy*, read *February* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Roſs*, read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Eve*, read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The petition of *William Haſſall*, read *March* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *Brodhead*, to report thereon.

The petition of the board of managers of the *Pennſylvania* ſociety for the encouragement of manufactures, read *March* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of divers merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia,* read *February* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Montgomery* county, read *March* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Jedediah Morſe,* read *March* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Maclay,* to report thereon.

The motion made *March* 5th by Mr. *Lollar,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Heiſter,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to make enquiry, and report to this Houſe what ſums of money have been paid into the ſtate treaſury quarterly by the Auctioneers of the city of *Philadelphia,* the diſtrict of *Southwark,* and *Northern Liberties,* reſpectively, within the laſt twelve months, in order that the Houſe may aſcertain with preciſion what the duties on public auctions produce, and whether the ſame have been punctually paid according to law, or not.

It was moved by Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Heiſter,*

To inſert, after the word "*reſpectively,*" the words "*and the Collector* "*of the duties or impoſts for the port of* Philadelphia," and after the word "*auctions,*" the words "*and impoſts.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid motion.

Which was carried in the negative. Whereupon

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the motion, as amended?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The report on the petition of *James Murray,* read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *James Murray* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report on the petitions of 1422 inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitions praying for a diviſion of *Cheſter* county be publiſhed for four weeks in one of the news-papers of this city.

The bill, entituled "*An Act further to ſuſpend the powers of the com-* "*miſſioners of the ſeveral counties within this ſtate to make ſale of lands for* "*non-payment of taxes,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

In conſidering the title of the ſaid bill,

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

To amend the title, ſo as to read, "*An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands* "*for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

Which was determined in the affirmative. Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly for the* "*relief of inſolvent debtors,*" was read the third time.

And in conſidering the ſeveral paragraphs,

An additional clauſe was propoſed by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*, in the words following, *viz.*

" And whereas it has been found on experience, that the long confinement for ſmall debts, fines or forfeitures, of thoſe who are incapable of " making ſatisfaction, tends to the diſtreſs of their families, as well as to " the public injury, by the burthen created and idle habits contracted thereby: For remedy whereof,

" Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That every perſon who " now is or hereafter ſhall be confined in any gaol within this commonwealth, in execution or otherwiſe, for any debt or debts, ſum or ſums of " money, or fine or fines, forfeiture or forfeitures, none of which do or " ſhall exceed the ſum of *five pounds* excluſive of coſts, and has or ſhall " have remained ſo confined for the ſpace of thirty days, ſhall be diſcharged " from ſuch confinement, and not be liable to be again impriſoned for the " ſame; and the Sheriff, Gaoler or Keeper of the gaol, in which ſuch perſon " is or ſhall be confined as aforeſaid, ſhall, upon application to him by the " perſon ſo confined, diſcharge him or her out of cuſtody, if detained for " ſuch debt or debts, ſum or ſums of money, fine or forfeiture, only, and " for no other cauſe."

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 17, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying a further time may be allowed for the payment of the arrearages due for unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to order, the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral acts* "*of Aſſembly for the relief of inſolvent debtors,*" recurring,

It was, on motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on ways and means.

And in debating the following reſolution, poſtponed *March* 13th, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *ten thouſand pounds* be annually ſet apart out of the revenue of this ſtate, as a fund for the payment of ſuch claims as are not otherwiſe provided for, the opening and improvement of the roads and inland navigation, and the encouragement of domeſtic manufactures, as the legiſlature may by law direct.

It was moved by Mr. *Brodhead*, ſeconded by Mr. *Irwin*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the act or acts whereby are funded the public debts, commonly called the depreciation and militia debts, beyond the firſt of *April* next, be repealed; and after the payments are compleated unto the firſt day of

April, they ſhall then ceaſe and determine; and that the exciſe revenue, which is now or hereafter may become due, until the aſſumption of that revenue by the United States, be excluſively applied to that purpoſe.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—

It was carried in the negative, and the original reſolution, as reported, adopted.

The following reſolution being before the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That all payments of penſioners under the act of the 22d *September* 1785 ceaſe, after the ſame ſhall be paid up to the firſt day of *May* next.

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

To poſtpone the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That all perſons who have loaned certificates of the United States to this ſtate ſhall be entitled to receive back ſuch certificates, and that proviſion be made by law for that purpoſe.

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed reſolution adopted.

The original reſolution recurring, was alſo adopted.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be directed to diſband the invalid corps, and to provide in a more frugal way for the ſafety of the public records.

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof.

Reſolved, That the invalid corps be diſbanded, and that the Supreme Executive Council be authorized to provide for the ſecurity of the public buildings and papers.

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed reſolution adopted: Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Ibrie* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a plan for leſſening the expences of government, and upon ſuch offices, the emoluments of which may be made to contribute to the expence thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the laſt reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of the* Callowhill *market, in the townſhip of the* Northern Liberties," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to erect the townſhip of* Derry, *in the county of* Bedford, *into a ſeparate election diſtrict*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to " eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia*, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the more effectual collection of the poor* " *tax in the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhips* " *of* Moyamenſing *and the* Northern Liberties, *and to provide in a more con-* " *venient and ſalutary manner for the confinement of diſorderly perſons found* " *and apprehended in the ſaid city, diſtrict and townſhips*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act empowering certain Truſtees, therein named,* " *to ſell and diſpoſe of a certain houſe and lot of ground, ſituate in the town of* " Eaſton, *and county of* Northampton, *and to appropriate the monies ariſing* " *from the ſale thereof towards the purchaſe of a parſonage or dwelling for the* " *miniſter of the four Proteſtant Evangelic Reformed* German *congregations*, " to wit, *that of* Eaſton, Bethlehem, Plainfield *and* Greenwich *townſhips*, " *for the time being*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for granting a part of the unappropriated* " *lands belonging to this ſtate to the inhabitants of* Northumberland *county*, " *for the uſe of a public ſchool in the ſaid county*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for regulating certain election diſtricts in the* " *counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Allegheney," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to prevent the granting of ſpecial courts on* " *the plaintiff*'s *application*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburg*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer*,

Ordered, That *Daniel Murphy* have leave to withdraw his petition.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for hearing *Miers Fiſher*, Eſquire, on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes*, Attorney to *James Rumſey*, be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday,

Wedneſday, March 18, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Harriſburg* was read, praying the nett proceeds of the ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna,* oppoſite to the ſaid town, may be veſted in Truſtees, for the purpoſe of endowing a public ſchool or ſchools in ſaid town, for the educating youth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to regulate fences, and to aſcertain a mode of proceeding in caſes of cat-* " *tle treſpaſſing,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as* " *directs the payment of the intereſt on the New-Loan debt beyond the firſt day* " *of* April *next, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Moore,*

Ordered, That this Houſe will at three o'clock this afternoon hear the arguments of *Miers Fiſher,* Eſquire, on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney to *James Rumſey.*

A reſolution of the Supreme Executive Council having been tranſmitted to the Speaker, was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March* 14*th,* 1789.

On motion, RESOLVED,

THAT the Vice-Preſident, Mr. *Woods,* Mr. *Redick,* Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Smith* be a committee, to confer with a committee of the General Aſſembly on the ſubject of the reſolution of the Houſe dated *November* 21ſt, 1788, relative to the public road between *Bedford* and *Pittſburg.*

Extract from the Minutes,

JAMES TRIMBLE,
for CHARLES BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Irwin,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Philips* be a committee, to confer with the committee of Council on the ſubject of ſaid reſolution.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *for the relief of* Robert Beatty *and* Benjamin Moore, *inſolvent Collectors, confined in the gaols of* Cumberland *and* Dauphin *counties.*

The bill, entituled “ *An Act in aid of the* Callowhill *market, in the* “ *townſhip of the* Northern Liberties,” having been alſo brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Lawrence Sickle*,
4 *William M‘Pherſon*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Richard Thomas*,
8 *James Moore*,
9 *Mark Wilcox*,
10 *John M‘Dowell*,
11 *James Cunningham*,
12 *Henry Dering*,
13 *Thomas Lilley*,
14 *Michael Schmyſer*,
15 *Henry Tyſon*,
16 *Joſeph Reed*,
17 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
18 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
19 *Joſeph Sands*,

YEAS.

20 *Daniel Brodhead*,
21 *John Ludwig*,
22 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
23 *Jacob Saylor*,
24 *John Piper*,
25 *James Barr*,
26 *William Todd*,
27 *James Marſhall*,
28 *John Nevil*,
29 *John Gilchreeſt*,
30 *James M‘Lene*,
31 *Robert Lollar*,
32 *Peter Richards*,
33 *Jonathan Roberts*,
34 *Jacob Miley*,
35 *John Carſon*,
36 *Obadiah Gore*,
37 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *William Lewis*,
2 *George Logan*,
3 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
4 *John Chapman*,
5 *Valentine Upp*,
6 *Samuel Foulke*,
7 *Caleb James*,
8 *Richard Downing*, jun.
9 *Alexander Lowrey*,
10 *James Clemſon*,
11 *Jacob Erb*,

NAYS.

12 *David Mitchell*,
13 *Thomas Beale*,
14 *Jonathan Hoge*,
15 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
16 *Samuel Maclay*,
17 *John White*,
18 *Alexander Wright*,
19 *Theophilus Philips*,
20 *James Johnſon*,
21 *Jacob Reiff*,
22 *Adam Orth*.

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Logan*,

Ordered, That 200 copies of the act, entituled “ *An Act to ſuſpend the* “ *ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein men-* “ *tioned*,” be printed, and tranſmitted to the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties within this commonwealth.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the ſeveral acts for the relief of in-* “ *ſolvent debtors*,” was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " A Supplement " to the act, entituled " An Act to enforce the due collection and payment " of taxes within this commonwealth," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly* " *reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers*," was read the third time.

And in debating the following clauſe, *viz.*

" Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives " of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſ" ſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That it ſhall and may be " lawful for the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to appoint and li" cence, as often as occaſion ſhall require, one auctioneer for the ſale of " eſtates, real and perſonal, within the townſhip of *Moyamenſing*, who ſhall " continue for and during the will and pleaſure of the ſaid Preſident and " Council, and ſhall give bond to the Preſident, or his ſucceſſors, with two " ſufficient ſureties, in the ſum of *two thouſand pounds*, for the faithful diſ" charge of his duty, and for well and truly performing the terms and pay" ments in and by this act, and the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly to " which this is a ſupplement, directed and required; and the ſaid auc" tioneer, who ſhall be appointed and licenced in purſuance of this act, ſhall " have the like powers and authorities within the ſaid townſhip of *Moya*" *menſing*, and be under the ſame rules, regulations, proviſions and direc" tions, and ſubject to the like pains and penalties, with any auctioneer for " the ſaid city of *Philadelphia*, the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, or " the diſtrict of *Southwark*."

It was moved by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*,

To ſtrike out the words, " *as often as occaſion ſhall require, one auctioneer* " *for the ſale of eſtates, real and perſonal, within the townſhip of* Moya" menſing, *who ſhall continue for and during the will and pleaſure of the* " *ſaid Preſident and Council, and*"—and in lieu thereof to inſert the following words, *viz.* " *as many auctioneers within the city of* Philadelphia, *diſtrict* " *of* Southwark, *and the townſhips of the* Northern Liberties *and* Moya" menſing, *for the ſale of eſtates, real and perſonal, within the ſaid city,* " *diſtrict and townſhips, as the ſaid Council ſhall deem neceſſary, who*"—

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the propoſed amendment?*"—the Houſe being equally divided, the Speaker was called upon to give his caſting vote, which he did in the negative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Honorable *Edward Shippen*, Eſquire, Preſident of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the emoluments annexed to the ſaid office are not a ſufficient compenſation for his ſervices, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *M'Dowell* be added to the committee appointed yeſterday, to report a plan for leſſening the expences of government.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to prevent the importation of convicts into this* " *commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to order, the Judges of the Supreme Court attending, *Miers Fiſher,* Eſquire, was heard on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes,* Attorney to *James Rumſey.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 19, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from divers officers in the late *American* military hoſpital, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 7th, 1787, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow* " *land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the county of* Cheſter, *to keep the banks,* " *dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the ex-* " *pence thereof,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for enlarging the time limited by the act,* " *entituled* " An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit " emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for " redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate; and for extending the " time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of " independency; and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers " for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Mr. *Lewis,* in his place, read a bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the ſe-* " *veral laws of this commonwealth reſpecting attachments;*" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſame being read the firſt time, was

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Piper,*

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be authoriſed and empowered to count, burn and deſtroy ſuch and ſo many of the bills of credit of the late emiſſion, as have been received in the loan-office on account of principal, and paid into the treaſury for the purpoſe of being deſtroyed, agreeably to the law enacted *November* 27th, 1787.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to aid and faithfully execute an act, entituled* "An Act to aſcertain, fix and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries for the Judges of "the Supreme Court," was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the "Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly "met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the Comptroller-General "of the ſtate ſhall be, and he is hereby authoriſed and required to liquidate, aſcertain and declare, by a particular ſtatement in writing, according to truth, equity and juſtice, the difference between the value of the "paper bills of credit aforeſaid, by the ſaid Judges from time to time heretofore received in payment of their reſpective ſalaries, and the like ſum "in gold or ſilver, and to reduce the ſaid difference into the ſaid bills of "credit; and that ſuch ſtatement thereof ſhall be made and delivered to "the Preſident in Council, who (the ſame being by them approved) ſhall "make and ſign a warrant on the Treaſurer of this commonwealth for "the ſum thereupon found due to each of the ſaid Judges, in paper "bills of credit as aforeſaid, payable to them reſpectively, or their legal "repreſentatives, which warrants the ſaid Treaſurer is empowered and directed to pay and ſatisfy out of the monies appropriated by law for that "purpoſe."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid paragraph?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Logan*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M'Pherſon*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *John M'Dowell*,

YEAS.

12 *Alexander Lowrey*,
13 *James Cunningham*,
14 *Henry Dering*,
15 *Thomas Clingan*,
16 *Jonathan Hoge*,
17 *Daniel Brodhead*,
18 *Conrad Ibrie*, jun.
19 *John Irwin*,
20 *James Marſhall*,
21 *Obadiah Gore*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Valentine Upp*,
3 *Samuel Foulke*,
4 *Richard Thomas*,
5 *Mark Wilcox*,
6 *Caleb James*,
7 *Richard Downing*, jun.
8 *James Clemſon*,
9 *Jacob Erb*,
10 *Thomas Lilley*,
11 *Michael Schmyſer*,
12 *Henry Tyſon*,

NAYS.

13 *Joſeph Reed*,
14 *David Mitchell*,
15 *Thomas Kennedy*,
16 *Thomas Beale*,
17 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
18 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
19 *Joſeph Sands*,
20 *John Ludwig*,
21 *Jacob Saylor*,
22 *John Piper*,
23 *James Barr*,
24 *William Todd*,

NAYS.

25 *James Alliſon,*
26 *John Nevil,*
27 *Alexander Wright,*
28 *John Gilchreeſt,*
29 *Theophilus Philips,*
30 *James Johnſon,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*

NAYS.

32 *Peter Richards,*
33 *Jonathan Roberts,*
34 *Jacob Miley,*
35 *Adam Orth,*
36 *John Carſon,*
37 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* Eaſton, *in the county of* Northampton, *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The memorial of the Honorable *Edward Shippen,* Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Dowell,* to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,* in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for granting, appropriating and ſurveying acres, with the uſual allowance, of the unappropriated land belonging to this ſtate in the reſidue of the donation lands, to be reſerved as a fund for making and keeping in repair the ſtate roads from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and for no other uſe whatſoever.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Reed,* in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of dividing and granting the reſidue of the ſixty thouſand acres of land reſerved by an act, entituled "*An Act for the preſent relief and future endowment of* Dickinſon College, *in the borough of* Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, *in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate as a fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the forty-fourth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth,*" paſſed the ſeventh day of *April,* 1786, to and amongſt ſuch of the counties of this commonwealth, as heretofore have not been endowed with public lands for the uſe of county ſchools.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, together with an abſtract of the accounts of this ſtate againſt the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 16th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Montgomery* county, praying for a grant of public lands, for the purpoſe of endowing a public ſchool at *Norriton*, in ſaid county, beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for granting   acres of the ſixty thouſand acres reſerved by act of Aſſembly for the endowment of county ſchools, for the purpoſe of endowing a county ſchool or ſchools in the county of *Montgomery*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Fitzſimons*, in his place, read a bill, entituled " *An Act for raiſing,* " *by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the ex-* " *pence of erecting a Common Hall in the city of* Philadelphia."

And on the queſtion,—" *Shall he have leave to preſent the ſame to the* " *chair, for the purpoſe of being read at the table?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 20, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*,

To re-conſider the vote of yeſterday on the queſtion,—" Shall the mem- " ber, who read in his place a bill, entituled " *An Act for raiſing, by way* " *of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of* " *erecting a Common Hall in the city of* Philadelphia," have leave to preſent " the ſame to the chair?"

And on the queſtion, it was carried in the affirmative, and leave accordingly granted, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Nichola*, keeper of the work-houſe for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the fees of his office are not aſcertained by law, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 1356 of the inhabitants of the weſtern part of the county of *York* was read, praying the ſame may be erected into a ſeparate county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſquire, Judge of the Admiralty, was read, ſetting forth, that the ſalary directed to be paid him by law has been paid in a depreciated paper currency; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him a full compenſation for his ſervices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A further Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act " to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for " repealing at a certain time all the laws heretofore made for that purpoſe," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the letter from his Excellency the Preſident reſpecting repairs to be made to the State-Houſe, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to conſider the letter of his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council of the 10th inſtant, on the ſubject of repairing the State Houſe, report a reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to have the neceſſary repairs done to the State Houſe, and the wings thereof, and to draw their warrant or warrants on the State Treaſury for any ſum or ſums, not exceeding *eleven hundred pounds* in the whole, for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 4th laſt, on the petition of *Frances Budden*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Frances Budden*, beg leave to report——

That it appears to your committee that *James Budden* was, together with his late partner, largely indebted to different perſons in *Europe*, and that for the diſcharging thereof he did, before the making of his will, place in the hands of his ſaid partner, who then reſided at *Barbados*, ſufficient funds, with directions to apply the ſame accordingly; that the ſaid *James Budden* made his will, under the belief that the ſaid debts had been diſcharged agreeably to his ſaid directions, and therefore gave no power to his executors therein named to ſell his real eſtate for the payment thereof; that it ſince appears that no part of the ſaid debts have been diſcharged out of the funds provided for that purpoſe by the ſaid *James Budden*, and that there are debts now due from the eſtate of the ſaid *James Budden* to the amount of *ſix thouſand pounds*, or thereabouts, for the payment whereof there is much reaſon to believe that his eſtate, or a very conſiderable part thereof, will ſhortly be ſold by the Sheriff, to the great injury thereof, unleſs the prayer of the ſaid petition ſhall be granted: Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *to wit*,

That *Frances Budden* have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of her petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 16th, on the petition of the committee of the manufacturing ſociety, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the memorial of the committee of the manufacturing ſociety report——

That the objects upon which the Society are employed, particularly the cotton branch, are undoubtedly of great importance to the ſtate, and that, for the ſpecial reaſons ſet forth in the memorial, a legiſlative aid would at this time greatly promote the deſigns of the Society: They therefore offer the following reſolution:

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to lend to the committee of the manufacturing fund of the *Pennſylvania* Society, for promoting manufactures and uſeful arts, the ſum of   *pounds*, as an aid to the ſaid committee in carrying on the deſigns of their eſtabliſhment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 14th laſt, on the petitions of *Joſeph Baldwin*, *Joſeph Vandegrift*, and *Charles Beſſonett*, relative to their bridges over *Neſhaminy* creek, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the ſeveral petitions of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, and *Charles Beſſonett*, relative to the bridges over *Neſhaminy* creek, report——

That they have heard the ſaid petitioners and their reſpective claims, and although they are ready to acknowledge the merit and utility of Mr. *Beſſonett*'s bridge, they conceive the other petitioners, *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, alſo entitled to protection, as their property, handed down to them by their anceſtors, and ſanctioned by different patents, has been greatly injured by the eſtabliſhment of Mr. *Beſſonett*'s bridge, and all they aſk is, that their bridge may have equal protection with his. This appears to your committee no more than equal juſtice, neither can they have any doubt of the utility of the bridge belonging to *Baldwin* and *Vandegrift*, when they conſider the great proportion of cuſtom it obtains, the reluctance of the Grand Jury of the county to find bills of indictment againſt them, and the great number of very reſpectable petitioners of the neighbourhood in their favor, and eſpecially the certificates of the boatmen navigating ſaid creek: The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to grant to *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift* the privilege of erecting and ſupporting a bridge over *Neſhaminy* creek, at the place called *Baldwin*'s *Ferry*, with a convenient draw for the paſſage of boats and other craft, and under proper regulations.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*, as follows, *viz.*

This Houſe having requeſted the attendance of the Judges at the late hearing between the parties on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes* and *John Fitch*, reſpecting the report of the committee brought in this ſeſſion on their petitions, the Judges be now requeſted to give their opinions in writing:

Firſt, How far, conſiſtently with law and the conſtitution of the United States, the ſaid report can be received as the foundation of an act upon the occaſion.

Secondly, Whether poſitive acts of Aſſembly, for the excluſive benefit of individuals, can conſiſtently with law be annulled.

Thirdly, And even if they can be annulled, whether they can be affected, altered, circumſcribed in their operation, or deſtroyed by any power, except by a direct law made eſpecially on the occaſion, clearly and pointedly deſcribing the act or acts ſo intended to be affected, altered, circumſcribed or deſtroyed.

And that this opinion be requeſted to be delivered in on   next, in order that the Houſe may have time to conſider the ſame this preſent ſeſſion.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees, therein named,* "*to ſell and diſpoſe of a certain houſe and lot of ground, ſituate in the town of* "Eaſton, *and county of* Northampton, *and to appropriate the monies ariſing* "*from the ſale thereof towards the purchaſe of a parſonage or dwelling for the* "*miniſter of the four Proteſtant Evangelic Reformed* German *congregations,* "to wit, *that of* Eaſton, Bethlehem, Plainfield *and* Greenwich *townſhips,* "*for the time being*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for compenſating* Evan Owen, *for ſupplies* "*by him furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county in the year* "*one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to appropriate divers funds, accruing and growing due to this common-* "*wealth, towards the payment of the expences of government, and to provide* "*a fund for other purpoſes,*" which was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Wynkoop,* ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer,* in the following words:

Reſolved, That the following addreſs to the citizens of this ſtate be publiſhed, as containing the ſentiments of this Aſſembly on the expediency of calling a Convention for the purpoſe of altering the conſtitution of the commonwealth:

To the Citizens of Pennſylvania.

IT is not only in the nature of a free government, but by the Bill of Rights you have expreſly ſecured to you, "an indubitable, unalienable "and indefeazible right to reform, alter or aboliſh the government and "conſtitution of the ſtate, in *ſuch manner* as you ſhall judge moſt conducive "to the public weal."

As the General Aſſembly of the commonwealth, we have "no power to "add to, alter, aboliſh or infringe any part of the conſtitution;" but, "as "faithful honeſt repreſentatives and guardians of the people," we deem it, "according to the beſt of our judgment and abilities," a material part of our "duty," to ſubmit to your ſerious conſideration ſuch information and remarks, as may be uſeful to you in determining for yourſelves whether the conſtitution of the ſtate ought to be altered and reformed. This information has been obtained, and theſe remarks have occurred, in the execution of the important truſt with which you have honored us.

The conſtitution of the United States has been, in the moſt ſolemn manner, adopted and ratified by you; and every member of the Legiſlature, as well as all executive and judicial officers of the ſtate, muſt be bound, by oath or affirmation, to ſupport that conſtitution, although it is in ſome important articles inconſiſtent with the conſtitution of this ſtate. But that conſtitution muſt be predominant, any thing in our own notwithſtanding. Ought it to be left to the dubious and perhaps the diſcordant conſtructions of Judges and other officers, to aſcertain the particulars in which the one is impliedly repealed by the other? We conceive it ſhould not; and that your voice, ſo far as it reſpects *Pennſylvania,* is as neceſſary to decide on this important ſubject, as it was in the original formation of your conſtitution.

The expences of the ſtate have been and are unneceſſarily great under the preſent conſtitution, whoſe genius is not that of public œconomy. To obtain and to ſecure that great principle of proſperity, it is indiſpenſably requiſite that caution, accuracy, order, moderation, ſtability and vigour, ſhould reign, in making and in executing the laws.

Without intending an invidious application to perſons or times, we ſubmit it to your experience and reflection, whether thoſe qualities are to be uniformly found in a legiſlature conſiſting of a ſingle body of men, or whether, on the contrary, precipitation and inconſiſtency do not too often characteriſe the proceedings of a legiſlature thus formed, and reſtrained by no immediate controul.

Did we incline to enumerate inſtances in proof of our ſentiments on this head, they are not wanting. But we do not undertake the diſagreeable taſk, as we only mean to convey our ideas of the imperfections to which the *ſyſtem* is liable.

This is a ſubject ſo familiar to you at this enlightened period of your affairs, that, to be underſtood, it need only be mentioned. Having recently turned your attention to the fœderal ſyſtem, you are fully informed on this head. The government of the United States, under the late articles of confederation, conſiſted only of a ſingle branch. The wiſeſt heads and the moſt virtuous hearts in our nation have agreed in condemning this inefficient and dangerous arrangement. You have *ſeen*, *felt*, and, to your never failing honor, have, with your compatriots of other ſtates, *remedied* this radical imperfection.

We ſubmit it, in the ſame manner, to your experience and reflection, whether the prevailing influence of the forementioned qualities is to be expected from an Executive Body, numerous, unwieldy, choſen without regard to the juſt principles of repreſentation, and acting without any efficient perſonal reſponſibility: Or whether, on the contrary, intrigue, waſte of public revenue, inattention to public property, and remiſſneſs in the execution of the laws, may not too often mark the conduct of a body thus choſen and conſtituted. We add here, that the good to be expected from ſuch an eſtabliſhment will be diminiſhed, and that the evils to be apprehended from it will be increaſed, by the erection of new counties, a meaſure in other reſpects frequently neceſſary.

It is our duty to inform you, however diſagreeable the intelligence may be, that, notwithſtanding the heavy taxes with which you have been burthened, the public debts, inſtead of being leſſened, have been augmented; and that, in the preſent ſituation of our government, there is but too little reaſon to indulge the hope of an effectual and ſtable reform.

Should your attention be turned to a Council of Cenſors, we beg leave to remark—That ſuch a Council cannot, under the conſtitution, meet for a conſiderable time—that they will not be elected on the true principles of repreſentation (the ſmalleſt county in the ſtate chuſing an equal number of members with the largeſt)—that a minority, even thus unequally choſen, may controul the ſentiments of a majority—that they will poſſeſs a negative, before debate, on the voice of the people—and that, if the reſult of all theſe inauſpicious circumſtances ſhould happen to be favourable, ſtill near two years farther may elapſe between the ſitting of the Council of Cenſors, and the meeting of a Convention.

The intereſting object is before you. It is yours to judge—and, judging, to act as you ſhall deem it to be moſt conducive to the proſperity and happineſs of the commonwealth.

If your ſentiments be in favor of an alteration of the conſtitution by a Convention, acting immediately under your authority, we ſuggeſt it to you, whether you ſhould not take ſuch ſteps as will afford an opportunity of chuſing a Convention at the next general election for members of Aſſembly, and thereby prevent the trouble and expence of a ſeparate election.

If, however, you ſhould be of opinion that the affairs of the ſtate ſhould continue to be adminiſtered under the preſent ſyſtem, we can only declare our acquieſcence in your deciſion, and that we muſt, as fellow-citizens, in common with you, ſubmit to the inconveniencies reſulting from it.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the ſaid addreſs be printed, and diſtributed among the members of this Houſe.

On motion of Mr. *Robinſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *February* 7th, on the letter from the Secretary at War, and the act of Congreſs of the 12th *Auguſt* laſt, be diſcharged.

The report on the petition of *Gabriel Coxe* and others, read *March* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be re-committed.

The report on the petition of *Thomas M'Fall*, read *March* 13th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Thomas M'Fall* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon*, together with the reſolution propoſed by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Chapman*, poſtponed *March* 11th: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be and they are hereby requeſted to ſuſpend the ſale of the real eſtate late of *Robert Robertſon*, deceaſed, now under a judgment in favor of the commonwealth againſt the adminiſtrators, during the life of *Grizzel Robertſon*, and that the petition of *Grizzel Robertſon* be herewith tranſmitted to Council.

The petition of *Peter Schaffner*, read *March* 12th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Lancaſter*, to report thereon.

The petition of 253 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Albany*, *Brunſwick*, *Windſor*, and the Upper Diviſion of *Bern* townſhip, in the county of *Berks*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Berks* county, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the following queſtions be propoſed to the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, and that their opinions be requeſted thereon.

Whether it will be conſiſtent with the conſtitution of this commonwealth to paſs an act, to authoriſe the granting of patents to original and true inventors and diſcoverers, for the excluſive rights and privileges of making, conſtructing, uſing and vending boats, to be propelled through the water by force of fire or ſteam, upon principles and in a manner, invented or to be invented, ſubſtantially and eſſentially different from any mode invented by

John Fitch, an act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for granting and ſecuring to* John Fitch *the ſole right and advantages of making and employing the ſteam boat by him lately invented, for a limited time,*" notwithſtanding.

Whether, in all grants of excluſive privilege to inventors, the extent of the grant ought, on the principles of the conſtitution and ſound policy, to be confined to the invention itſelf, or whether it may extend to the excluſive privilege of inventing upon any given ſubject, and to ſecure to the grantee the paſt and future inventions of all other perſons ſubſtantially and eſſentially different.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Nevil* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made this forenoon by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*.

It was then moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To poſtpone the conſideration thereof, in order to introduce the one propoſed by the laſt named members this forenoon.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The original motion made by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*, recurring.

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge*,

To ſtrike out the firſt queſtion, *viz.*

"*Firſt*, How far, conſiſtently with law and the conſtitution of the United "States, the ſaid report can be received as the foundation of an act upon "the occaſion?"

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It thereupon was moved by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

To amend the ſaid motion, to read as follows, *viz.*

This Houſe having requeſted the attendance of the Judges at the late hearing between the parties on behalf of *Joſeph Barnes*, Attorney to *James Rumſey*, and *John Fitch*, reſpecting the report of the committee brought in this ſeſſion on their petitions,

Reſolved, That the Judges be now requeſted to give their opinions in writing on the following queſtion, *viz.*

Query. Can this Houſe, conſiſtently with the principles of law, juſtice, and the conſtitution of this ſtate, enact a law upon the principles of the report before this Houſe, in the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and *James Rumſey*?

Which was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 21, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Reed* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

A petition from Doctor *Thomas Bond*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 22d laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Bartholomew Van Heer*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 4th, 1788, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 16th, on the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to conſider the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs*, debtors, confined in the gaol of *Philadelphia* county, have conſidered the ſame, and find that both the ſaid petitioners have been proceeded againſt according to the directions of the bankrupt laws.

That the ſaid *Francis White* now ſtands committed by the commiſſioners (named in the commiſſion iſſued forth againſt him) by virtue of the 14th ſection of the act for the regulation of bankruptcies:

That the ſaid *Robert Roſs*, not having received the certificate directed by the aforeſaid act, he being adjudged not to have complied with the directions thereof, has been confined by execution iſſued at the ſuit of one of his creditors:

The committee are of opinion, that an interference of legiſlative authority in the caſe of *Francis White*, who has been committed for non-compliance with the bankrupt acts, as before ſtated, is now improper; and in the caſe of *Robert Roſs* altogether unneceſſary, as they are unacquainted with any legal impediment to his diſcharge under the laws for relief of inſolvent debtors:

They thereupon ſubmit the following reſolution, as proper to be adopted by the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs* have leave to withdraw their reſpective petitions.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Peter Shaffner*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Peter Shaffner*, late collector of taxes for the borough of *Lancaſter*, ſetting forth, that on the ſettlement of his accounts with the commiſſioners there appears a balance due from him, which at preſent he is unable to diſcharge; but having a number of public ſecurities or certificates in his poſſeſſion to that amount, and praying they may be received in ſatisfaction of the ſaid debt, report the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Peter Shaffner* cannot be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 18th, to confer with a committee of Council on the ſubject of the ſtate road leading from *Bedford* to *Pittſburg*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, appointed to confer with a committee of the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council upon the ſubject of the ſtate road between *Bedford* and the town of *Pittſburg*, beg leave to report——

That they found the ſeveral objects intended by the conference, on the part of Council, were as follow:

Firſt, To make an eſtimate of the neceſſary expence which might accrue upon viewing, marking and laying out the road between *Bedford* and *Pittſburg.*

Secondly, To ſtate the inſufficiency of the reſolution of this Houſe of the 21ſt of *November* laſt, which authorizes the Supreme Executive Council to draw upon the State Treaſurer for the ſums neceſſary to defray the expence of viewing and marking the ſaid road, while no ſpecial proviſion is made by law for granting the ſum neceſſary upon this occaſion.

Thirdly, To ſtate the neceſſity of an immediate law for granting ſuch a ſum, as this Houſe may judge neceſſary to defray the expence of the buſineſs above mentioned.

Upon due conſideration of theſe ſeveral objects, your committee do moſt heartily concur in opinion with the committee of Council, that that part of the ſtate road between *Bedford* and *Pittſburg* doth claim the attention of this Houſe, in preference to all other roads in diſtant parts of the ſtate: Wherefore they beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for granting the ſum of   for defraying the expence of viewing, marking and laying out the ſtate road between *Bedford* and *Pittſburg.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for compenſating* Evan Owen, *for ſupplies by him furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five.*

An ACT *empowering certain truſtees therein named to ſell and diſpoſe of a certain houſe and lot of ground, ſituate in the town of* Eaſton, *and county of* Northampton, *and to appropriate the monies ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the purchaſe of a parſonage or dwelling houſe for the miniſter of the four Proteſtant Evangelic Reformed* German *congregations,* to wit, *that of* Eaſton, Bethlehem, Plainfield *and* Greenwich *townſhips, for the time being.*

An ACT *for enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* "An Act "for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year "one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of "the funded debt of this ſtate; for extending the time for patenting "lands which were located before the declaration of independency; and for "giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for "lands by them occupied."

The report on the petition of *Frances Budden,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Frances Budden* have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of her petition.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Juſtices of the Orphans Court to authorize and* "*empower* Frances Budden *to ſell and convey ſo much of the lands and tene-*"*ments of her late huſband,* James Budden, *deceaſed, as ſhall be neceſſary* "*for the payment of his debts, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,* which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of *John Hewſon*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *March* 4th, on the petition of 162 inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition from 162 inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, report——

That the act for erecting *Dauphin* county required the lines of ſaid county to be run and aſcertained by the commiſſioners therein named, or the major part of them; that two different lines have been run, to one of which three of the five commiſſioners (in the act named) have agreed; that the conformity of this line to the directions of the law is diſputed: Your committee, conſidering the matter in diſpute as moſt properly coming before the judicial department of government, offer a reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That there is no cauſe for legiſlative interpoſition in the caſe of the diſputed line of *Dauphin* county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the memorial of the manufacturing ſociety, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

It was then moved by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the reſolution contained in the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Treaſurer be directed to ſubſcribe, on the part of the ſtate, for 100 ſhares in the fund of the manufacturing ſociety in the city of *Philadelphia*, placed under the direction of the perſons called the manufacturing committee, and that the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and directed to iſſue their warrant or warrants for payment of the amount of ſaid ſubſcription, and that a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the ſaid purpoſe.

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution propoſed by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Hiltzheimer* adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into* "*a ſeparate county*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to prevent the granting of ſpecial courts on* "*the plaintiff*'s *application*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to leave given yeſterday, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight* "*Thouſand*

" *Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common Hall in* " *the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, March 23, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wilcox*,

To re-conſider the report on the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs*, adopted *March* 21ſt, ſo far as the ſame reſpects the caſe of ſaid *Roſs*.

Which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That that part of the ſaid report be re-committed.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay*,

Ordered, That the committee on the petition of *Jedediah Morſe*, appointed *March* 16th, be diſcharged: Whereupon

Mr. *Lewis*, in his place, read a bill, entituled " *An Act to ſecure to* " Jedediah Morſe, *and his heirs and aſſigns, the copy right of an* American " *Geography, by him compiled*," and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, and the ſame being read the firſt time, was, on motion, and by ſpecial order, read the ſecond time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

" Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of " the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly " met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the ſaid *Jedediah Morſe*, and " his heirs and aſſigns, ſhall, on his regiſtering his name as author thereof, " with the title of the ſaid book, in the Prothonotary's Office in the city of " *Philadelphia*, be, and they are hereby as fully ſecured in the copy right of " the ſaid *American* Geography, to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever, as if " the ſame had been printed and publiſhed within this ſtate.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for the better regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Cheſter *county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with a committee of Council upon the ſubject of the ſtate road to *Pittſburg*, read *March* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for granting the ſum of   for defraying the expence of viewing, marking and laying out the ſtate road between *Bedford* and *Pittſburg*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Philips* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting trials at Niſi Prius in the county of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to aſſiſt the cotton manufactures of this ſtate*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

An anſwer from the Honorable *George Bryan*, Eſquire, one of the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, to the queſtion propounded by this Houſe *March* 20th, in the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and *James Rumſey*, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

The anſwer of GEORGE BRYAN, *one of the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, on the requeſt of the Honorable General Aſſembly of* Pennſylvania, *to the following queſtion.*

A COMMITTEE of the Honorable Houſe having propoſed as a reſolve, *viz.*

"That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, veſting a "power in the   of granting "patents, and to ſecure to original diſcoverers and inventors, their heirs "and aſſigns (any exiſting law or laws to the contrary notwithſtanding) "the excluſive right of and the benefit ariſing from their diſcoveries and "inventions," this queſtion is propoſed to the Juſtices of the Supreme Court——

"Can this Houſe, conſiſtently with the principles of law, juſtice, and "the conſtitution of this ſtate, enact a law, upon the principles of the "report before the Houſe, in the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and "*James Rumſey?*"

On conſidering the arguments which were uſed in the queſtion before the Houſe of Aſſembly by the advocates of *John Fitch* and *James Rumſey*, it appears to me that the act of General Aſſembly of this ſtate, heretofore paſſed in favor of *John Fitch*, ought not to be diſturbed by any new proceeding whatever.

The *Engliſh* Statute of the twenty-firſt of *James* the Firſt, chapter the third, appears to have been well conſidered, and to have been eſtabliſhed upon very ſolid principles.

This act expreſly provides, that former acts (which were then in force) granting monopolies ſhould remain undiſturbed.

The rule is certainly a right rule, and for the beſt reaſons. Former acts may have been obtained improperly, or the reaſons for enacting them may not be known at a future day; yet it is more for the intereſt of the community to abide by its own legiſlative grants, than to reſume them even in caſes wherein they have been improperly made, unleſs indeed there be a very great neceſſity for ſo doing; becauſe, if one man cannot rely on the faith of government, neither can others. It would be a very miſchievous thing for any government to have its faith ſuſpected. The ſtate, whoſe legiſlative grants cannot be depended on, muſt ſink into contempt. A few inſtances will illuſtrate this doctrine.

Divorces have been frequently granted, by laws made for the expreſs purpoſes. Latterly, a court has been provided by act of General Aſſembly for the decreeing of divorces in proper caſes, and under certain reſtrictions. What havock would enſue, if this court were enabled to re-examine and to ſet aſide any of the divorces declared by the legiſlature!

Some of the divorces ſo made were, perhaps, improper, and at this day the impropriety of them might appear to be greater than it was at the time of granting them, for want of knowing the reaſons upon which they were made, and the proofs upon which the legiſlature proceeded. It appears to me, that it would be highly dangerous to ſuffer a new enquiry to be made concerning any of them.

Title deeds, ſurmiſed to be loſt by the parties intereſted in them, have been ſupplied by acts of General Aſſembly. A court has ſince been authoriſed to enquire into ſuggeſtions of this nature, and to give remedy to the parties who ſuffer. It would be dreadful, were this court authorized to look into the caſes included within theſe acts of Aſſembly, and to unravel the titles.

"*Quod fieri non debet, factum valet,*" is an excellent rule in ſuch caſes. The fact is, that fooliſh things are done by every government; many fooliſh grants are made.

Yet the wiſdom of government cannot be impeached, without injury to the ſtate, nor its moſt abſurd grants be revoked, without arraigning at the ſame time its juſtice and its wiſdom.

Tens of thouſands of money would be a trifling ſacrifice, compared to the loſs of character of the ſtate.

But this is not all: When a man has accompliſhed his purpoſe, he ſlights the means which were uſeful to that end. People, once poſſeſſed of a legiſlative grant, take no care to preſerve their evidence, ſuppoſing that all difficulty is over. An eſtate thus circumſtanced may be transferred, or the grantee of a monopoly may have obtained credit upon the ſtrength of the interpoſition of the Legiſlature in his favor. Hence private injuſtice would be added to the public miſchief, an obſervation which probably applies in the caſe of *John Fitch.* He, I believe, has obtained credit upon his diſcovery to the full value of its worth; and if his ſcheme ſhould turn out at length to be a bubble, as it is not impoſſible it may, the ſtate, by intermeddling, will ſacrifice its dignity, its juſtice and its wiſdom, to little purpoſe indeed.

On the other hand, ſhould Mr. *Fitch*'s invention turn out to be as important as its ſanguine promoters believe, it may be worth while for the ſtate to purchaſe of the owners their excluſive claim; but ſhould it prove as important as any ſchemer can poſſibly imagine, it would not in my opinion compenſate the irreparable miſchief of violating the public faith.

I am told the ſtate of *Maryland* has lately given to a private citizen, for a term of years, the monopoly of employing ſtage-waggons on the poſt-road through that ſtate, between the rivers *Potowmack* and *Suſquehanna*; and that the ſtate of *Virginia* has granted to *Alexander Quarrier* the ſole right of building coaches within the ſtate, for a limited ſpace of time. Notwithſtanding there could be no pretence of genius or invention in either caſe, and although to a *Pennſylvanian* both theſe grants ſeem to be not only improper, but extravagant, yet the Legiſlatures of our ſiſter ſtates might have better reaſons for erecting ſuch monopolies than appear to us, who are at a diſtance. I venture to ſay, that common prudence will diſpoſe the grantors to permit the reſpective monopoliſts to enjoy, without diſturbance, their privileges during their ſeveral terms, unleſs they be freely ſurrendered for a price paid by the public.

Should the monopolies above mentioned be attended with ſome inconvenience, the miſchief would be in a conſiderable degree made up, by the leſſon of caution thereby given to thoſe who ſhall hereafter exerciſe the authority of granting privileges of this nature.

In conſidering this ſubject I have looked over, not only the grant of this ſtate to *John Fitch*, but that of *February* 1785, to *Arthur Donnaldſon*, of the excluſive right to his *Hippopotamas* for ſeven years; that of *September* 1787, to *George Wall*, jun. for twenty-one years, of a new ſurveying inſtrument, and ſuch farther improvements as he might thereafter put to the ſame; and alſo the act of Aſſembly of *March* 1787, in favor of *Oliver Evans*, who had diſcovered uſeful helps in the grinding and boulting of grain, the profit of which he is to enjoy during fourteen years, unleſs the commonwealth pay him *five thouſand pounds* as a compenſation.

Upon the whole, for the foregoing reaſons, I am of opinion that the report of the committee, before recited, ought not to be adopted by the Honorable Houſe; and that (the ſaid grants to *J. Fitch* and others conſidered) it cannot be adopted, conſiſtently with the principles of law, juſtice, and the conſtitution of this ſtate.

GEO. BRYAN.

Philadelphia, 23*d March*, 1789.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 24th, to examine into the powers of the Comptroller-General and the mode of tranſacting buſineſs in that office, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to examine into the tranſactions of the office of the Comptroller-General, report——

That in the execution of that duty they have found it neceſſary to confine their inquiry to two objects, *to wit*, The general mode of tranſacting the buſineſs; and that of ſtating and keeping the public accounts.

Upon the firſt head, they are informed that the accounts are examined by the Comptroller, who makes ſuch remarks thereon as he thinks neceſſary, which, together with the accounts and vouchers, are laid before the Executive Council, who either approve or diſapprove thereof; if they approve, and the party is ſatisfied, a certificate is iſſued by the Comptroller for the balance in ſome inſtances, in others the party is entitled to payment at the treaſury upon an order of Council, which order muſt be regiſtered and certified by the

Comptroller; if the party is diſſatisfied with the ſettlement, he may apply for a trial by jury, or a reference, under the authority of the Court.

It has become the practice with Council latterly to appoint committees, to whom the accounts laid before them are referred, and the report of theſe committees are put upon the minutes; they are then returned to the Comptroller's Office, and he indorſes and lays them by with the vouchers. The certificate iſſued for the balance undergoes no inſpection, nor can it now be known whether ſuch certificates agree with the balances, except by comparing each account with the regiſtry of the certificate.

By the act of *March* 1786, the Comptroller is directed to take on loan certificates of the United States, and to iſſue certificates of this ſtate in lieu thereof. The act directs that the regiſtry of ſuch certificates, together with thoſe received, ſhould from time to time (as they ſhould require) be laid before the Executive Council, to be compared, checked and examined. Certificates for above Five Millions of ſpecie dollars have been iſſued; but as Council never made the requiſition, no examination has been made. We were informed by the officer, that the calculations for reducing the continental certificates to ſpecie value, and to aſcertain the intereſt thereon, were all made by himſelf, and the names and ſums filled up by him; that the certificates iſſued for balances of accounts for the depreciation and commutation of the army were in like manner calculated and filled up by him, without the intervention or controul of any perſon whatever.

It is the duty of this officer to adjuſt and ſettle the accounts of all the officers of the ſtate who receive public monies; but the committee had no opportunity of informing themſelves how that part of the duty has been executed. It appears, however, to be extremely improper, that the adjuſtment of ſuch numerous and important accounts, with the iſſues of ſuch immenſe ſums in certificates, ſhould reſt ſolely in the diſcretion of an individual. They are of opinion that ſome other perſon or board ought to have a reviſion of them, to inſure ſafety and confidence to the commonwealth, the mode uſed by Council in ſome caſes appearing to be very imperfect.

With reſpect to the methods uſed in ſtating and keeping the public accounts, the committee do not perceive that any official form of ſtatement has been uſed. The Comptroller, upon his own view, makes ſuch notes on or deductions from the accounts as he judges neceſſary. When ſettled, they, together with the vouchers, are indorſed and laid by, and this is the only evidence that yet exiſts of theſe ſettlements, and printed copies of ſome accounts directed by law. The books of the office were ſhewn to the committee, but no account (one excepted) has yet been entered and ſettled in them. Not an entry has been made in thoſe books ſince the year 1784. To account for this omiſſion, the committee were informed that the other duties of the officer put it out of his power to attend to this part. That theſe duties have been very laborious, the committee can readily believe; but they are decidedly of opinion, that he would have been much more uſefully employed in the general direction and ſuperintendance of the buſineſs, than in the execution of the details, which might have been equally well done by ordinary clerks, at the ſame time that their examinations might in a degree prevent errors or remove jealouſy; but they cannot conceive it to be either equitable with reſpect to the perſons who have ſettled their accounts, or conſiſtent with the honor of the ſtate, that the evidence of ſuch ſettlements ſhould remain on looſe papers or memorandums; much leſs can it be

pretended

pretended that the receipts and payments of the public revenue ſhould depend upon ſuch documents.

The accounts, in the opinion of the committee, ought to be ſo arranged and kept, that the repreſentatives of the people could, whenever they thought it neceſſary, be able to judge of the ſtate of them, and of the conduct of thoſe who adminiſter them.

Under theſe impreſſions, and with a view of remedying the preſent defects in the conſtitution of the office of Comptroller-General, the committee recommend the following reſolution :

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authorizing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint an officer, whoſe duty it ſhall be to methodize, ſtate and keep the accounts of this commonwealth, for a ſalary of *pounds per annum.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act relating to Sheriffs,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to amend an act, entituled* " An Act for amending the penal laws of " this ſtate," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeve-* " *ral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the more effectual collection of the poor* " *tax in the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhips* " *of* Moyamenſing *and the* Northern Liberties, *and to provide in a more con-* " *venient and ſalutary manner for the confinement of diſorderly perſons found* " *and apprehended in the ſaid city, diſtrict and townſhips,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the incorporation of the College of Phy-* " *ſicians of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* " *Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common Hall* " *in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid " managers ſhall have full power and authority to ſell and diſpoſe of, to " ſuch perſon or perſons as ſhall chooſe to adventure in the ſaid lottery, the " tickets of the middle column aforeſaid, at the rate of Four Dollars each, " for ready money, and not otherwiſe; and upon the receipt of ſuch ſum " of Four Dollars ſhall deliver to the adventurer one of the ſaid tickets, " ſigned by one of the managers, and cut out of the ſaid books, through

" the ſaid oblique lines and devices, indentwiſe, to be kept and uſed for the " better aſcertaining and ſecuring his, her or their intereſt in the ſaid ticket, " in caſe it ſhould be fortunate."

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the clauſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Wright*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M'Pherſon*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *Richard Thomas*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Mark Wilcox*,
12 *John M'Dowell*,
13 *Alexander Lowrey*,
14 *Henry Dering*,
15 *Thomas Clingan*,

YEAS.

16 *Thomas Lilley*,
17 *Jonathan Hoge*,
18 *Joſeph Sands*,
19 *Daniel Brodhead*,
20 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
21 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
22 *Stephen Balliot*,
23 *John White*,
24 *John Irwin*,
25 *William Todd*,
26 *Robert Lollar*,
27 *Peter Richards*,
28 *John Carſon*,
29 *Obadiah Gore*,
30 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *John Chapman*,
3 *Valentine Upp*,
4 *Caleb James*,
5 *Richard Downing*, jun.
6 *James Cunningham*,
7 *Michael Schmyſer*,
8 *Henry Tyſon*,
9 *David Mitchell*,
10 *Thomas Kennedy*,
11 *Thomas Beale*,
12 *John Ludwig*,
13 *Jacob Saylor*,
14 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

15 *Samuel Maclay*,
16 *James Barr*,
17 *James Marſhall*,
18 *James Alliſon*,
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,
21 *Theophilus Philips*,
22 *James M'Lene*,
23 *James Johnſon*,
24 *Jacob Reiff*,
25 *Jonathan Roberts*,
26 *Jacob Miley*,
27 *Adam Orth*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And in conſidering the title of the ſaid bill,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To amend the ſame, by inſerting, after the word " *Philadelphia*," the words " *and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of* Dickinſon *college, in the* " *borough of* Carliſle."

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*, in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of any law as prohibits the exhibiting of any theatrical entertainments in any college, ſchool or other ſeminary of learning, by the ſtudents in any ſuch college, ſchool or ſeminary, under the direction of the Truſtees, Maſters or Teachers thereof, or with their aſſent or approbation.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 24, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March 24th,* 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to you, for the information of the Legiſlature, the report of the commiſſioners appointed by Council " to " negociate and compleat the purchaſe of the triangular piece of land lying between the weſtern line of *New-York*, the northern line of *Pennſylvania,* and part of *Lake Erie*, from the *Indians*."

General *Butler*'s letter, recommending the grant of one thouſand or fifteen hundred acres of land to *The Cornplanter*, a *Seneca* Chief, is alſo tranſmitted.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

The committee appointed *February* 19th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the petition from *Lancaſter* county praying a reduction in the price of the lands in the new purchaſe, and an exemption from taxes, was referred, report——

That it appears to your committee the price is by no means too high, but that an exemption from taxes for ſeven years would be proper, which they conceive would prove a ſufficient encouragement to people diſpoſed to become adventurers.

They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of exempting from taxation, for   years, purchaſers of lands within the new purchaſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims, to whom was referred the petition of *John Roſs, March* 16th, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, on the petition of *John Roſs,* beg leave to report——

That they made enquiry at the Comptroller General's Office, and find that the petitioner has been paid and finally ſettled with, and if he had not received his pay, it could be ſettled agreeably to acts already paſſed; therefore the application to this Houſe is improper, and that he can only have leave to withdraw his application.

Reſolved, That *John Roſs* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for granting the ſum of* one hundred pounds, *towards the expence of* "*reviewing and laying out the ſtate road between the town of* Bedford *and* "Pittſburgh," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 13th laſt, on that part of the meſſage from Council reſpecting a reſervation of certain lands for the uſe of the ſtate, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects reſervations of certain lands for the uſe of the ſtate, report the following reſolution, *viz.*

Roſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted, and they are hereby authoriſed and requeſted to direct locations to be made and ſurveyed, for the uſe of the commonwealth, of lands at *Preſque Iſle,* formed by *Lake Erie,* at *Le Bœuf,* at the head of the navigation of *French-Creek,* at the mouth of *Conewango,* in the county of *Allegheney,* and at the fort of *Venango,* not exceeding at each place three thouſand acres, and that this Houſe will provide by law accordingly: And that Council alſo be and they are hereby requeſted to ſet apart, and cauſe to be ſurveyed, the quantity of fifteen hundred acres, in the tract of country on *Lake Erie* lately purchaſed from the United States, for the uſe of the *Seneca* Chief called Captain *Abeel,* or *The Cornplanter,* to be granted to him, and his heirs and aſſigns for ever, in conſideration of his perſonal merit and attachment to this ſtate.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made *March* 19th by Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Reed*: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of dividing and granting the reſidue of the ſixty thouſand acres of land reſerved by an act, entituled "*An Act for the preſent relief and future endowment of* Dickinſon College, *in the borough of* "Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, *in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of* "*the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate as a fund for the endowment* "*of public ſchools, agreeably to the forty-fourth ſection of the conſtitution of*

" *this commonwealth,*" paſſed the ſeventh day of *April*, 1786, to and amongſt ſuch of the counties of this commonwealth, as heretofore have not been endowed with public lands for the uſe of county ſchools.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Brodhead*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to eſtablish a board of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia*, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the Juſtices of the Orphans Court* " *to authorize and empower* Frances Budden *to ſell and convey ſo much of* " *the lands and tenements of her late huſband*, James Budden, *deceaſed, as* " *ſhall be neceſſary for the payment of his debts, and for other purpoſes therein* " *mentioned*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the Land Officers to iſſue re-locating* " *warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed*," was read the third time.

And in conſidering the firſt enacting clauſe,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay*,

To ſubſtitute another clauſe in lieu thereof.

And the ſame being read,

It was, On motion,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill and propoſed clauſe be poſtponed.

The motion made by Mr. *Wynkoop*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*, *March* 20th, containing an addreſs on the ſubject of calling a Convention for the purpoſes therein mentioned, was read the ſecond time.

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To poſtpone the ſame, in order to introduce the following reſolutions in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe alterations and amendments of the conſtitution of this ſtate are immediately neceſſary.

And whereas, by the declaration of independence, it is declared as a ſelf evident truth, " That all men are endowed by their Creator with certain " unalienable rights; that among theſe are life, liberty, and the purſuit of " happineſs; that to ſecure theſe rights, governments are inſtituted among " men, deriving their juſt powers from the conſent of the governed; that " whenever any form of government becomes deſtructive of theſe ends, it " is the right of the people to alter or to aboliſh it, and to inſtitute a new " government, laying its foundations in ſuch principles, and organiſing its " powers in ſuch form, as to them ſhall ſeem moſt likely to effect their ſafe- " ty and happineſs:" And whereas it is alſo declared by our own bill of rights, " That government is or ought to be inſtituted for the common be- " nefit, protection and ſecurity of the people, nation or community, and not " for the particular emolument or advantage of any ſingle man, family or ſett " of men, who are a part only of that community, and that the community " hath an indubitable, unalienable and indefeazible right to reform, alter or

“ aboliſh government, in ſuch manner as ſhall be by that community judg- “ ed moſt conducive to the public weal :” From all which, as well as from the nature of ſociety and the principles of government, it manifeſtly appears that the people have at all times an inherent right to alter and amend the form of government, in ſuch manner as they ſhall think proper ; and alſo that they are not and cannot be limited to any certain rule or mode of accompliſhing the ſame, but may make choice of ſuch method as to them may appear beſt adapted to the end propoſed.

And whereas the burthens and expences of the preſent form of government are with difficulty borne, and various inſtances occur wherein this form is contradictory to the conſtitution of the United States, which every member of the legiſlature and all executive and judicial officers muſt be bound by oath or affirmation to ſupport—circumſtances which will not admit of the delay of the mode preſcribed in the conſtitution—It is, therefore, further

Reſolved, That it be and it is hereby propoſed and earneſtly recommended by this Houſe, in execution of their truſt as faithful, honeſt repreſentatives and guardians of the people, to the citizens of this commonwealth, that they take this important ſubject into their ſerious conſideration. And ſhould they concur in opinion with this Houſe (it being the right of the people alone to determine on this intereſting queſtion) that a Convention, for the purpoſes of reviſing, altering and amending the conſtitution of the ſtate, is neceſſary, it is hereby ſubmited to their deciſion, whether it will not be moſt convenient and proper for them to elect members of Convention, of the ſame numbers and in the like proportions for the city of *Philadelphia* and the ſeveral counties with thoſe of their Repreſentatives in Aſſembly, on the day of the next general election, at the places and in the manner preſcribed in caſes of elections of members of Aſſembly by the laws of the ſtate.

That this Houſe, on the pleaſure of the people in the premiſes being ſignified to them at their next ſitting, will provide by law for the expences which will neceſſarily be incurred by the propoſed Convention, and will, if requeſted, appoint the time and place for the meeting thereof. And that the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſted to promulgate this recommendation to the good people of this ſtate, in ſuch way and manner as to them ſhall ſeem moſt expedient for the purpoſes herein intended.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And the ſaid reſolutions being by ſpecial order read the ſecond time,

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid reſolutions?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M‘Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,

YEAS.

11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Samuel Foulke*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *James Moore*,
16 *Mark Wilcox*,
17 *John M‘Dowell*,
18 *Caleb James*,
19 *Richard Downing*, jun.
20 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

21 *James Cunningham*,
22 *Henry Dering*,
23 *Thomas Clingan*,
24 *Thomas Lilley*,
25 *Michael Schmyſer*,
26 *Henry Tyſon*,
27 *Joſeph Sands*,
28 *Daniel Brodhead*,
29 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
30 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
31 *Stephen Balliot*,
32 *Jacob Saylor*,
33 *John White*,
34 *John Irwin*,
35 *Alexander Wright*,
36 *Robert Lollar*,
37 *Jacob Reiff*,
38 *Peter Richards*,
39 *Jonathan Roberts*,
40 *John Carſon*,
41 *Obadiah Gore*.

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Jonathan Hoge*,
5 *John Ludwig*,
6 *John Piper*,
7 *Samuel Maclay*,
8 *James Barr*,
9 *William Todd*,
10 *James Marſhall*,
11 *James Alliſon*,
12 *John Gilchreeſt*,
13 *Theophilus Philips*,
14 *James M‘Lene*,
15 *James Johnſon*,
16 *Jacob Miley*,
17 *Adam Orth*.

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolutions adopted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 25, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe having, by a reſolution of the 20th inſtant, requeſted the opinion of the Judges, in writing, on the following queſtion, *viz.*

"Can this Houſe, conſiſtently with the principles of law, juſtice, and "the conſtitution of this ſtate, enact a law upon the principles of the re-"port before the Houſe, in the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and "*James Rumſey?*"

Anſwers were this day received from his Honor the Chief Juſtice, and Judge *Ruſh*, which were read, as follow, *viz.*

To The Honorable THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY *of the State of* Pennſylvania.

I HAVE taken the above queſtion into ſerious conſideration, and would premiſe, that he who truſts to a legiſlative ſecurity ought never to be a loſer; but, at the ſame time, that no monopoly or excluſive right granted by law to an individual or private company ſhould be merely for their benefit, having no regard to the public advantage, and that ſuch a grant ought to be fairly obtained. That any law, which militates againſt the rights of the original and true diſcoverers and inventors of any thing not before uſed, appears to cramp genius, diſcourage merit, and counteract the public good, and ought not therefore to be too ſcrupulouſly reſpected by a ſubſequent Legiſlature; for general utility is the ſupreme law.

In *Great-Britain* new diſcoveries and inventions are ſecured to the authors, for a limited time, by charters or letters patent granted by the King, as the Supreme Executive Power; in *Pennſylvania*, by the General Aſſembly. If the King has been deceived in his grant by untrue ſuggeſtions or otherwiſe, it is voidable by *ſcire facias* out of the Chancery: And fraud will vitiate any act, even judgments and decrees obtained in the temporal or eccleſiaſtical courts.

I have not been able to find a precedent of the repeal of an act of Parliament granting an excluſive privilege, on the ground of its having been obtained upon untrue ſuggeſtions or miſrepreſentations, and muſt therefore form an anſwer to the queſtion propoſed from principles and analogy. I can conceive, that a Houſe of Aſſembly here may be deceived, as well as the King in *Great-Britain*, and upon the whole am of opinion,

That the Legiſlature of *Pennſylvania* can, conſiſtently with the principles of law, juſtice, and the conſtitution of the ſtate, enact a law upon the principles of the report before the Houſe, in the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and *James Rumſey*; but that in ſuch a law care ſhould be taken, that the diſcovery or invention of the thing privileged ſhould be manifeſtly beneficial to the public, and ſubſtantially and eſſentially new; and that if any controverſy ſhould ariſe thereupon, the ſame ſhould be put in ſuch a train, that it may be tried without prejudice in a court of common law.

THOMAS M'KEAN.

March 24th, 1789.

To the Honorable THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of Pennſylvania.*

THE Legiſlature, by an act paſſed the twenty-eighth day of *March*, 1787, granted to *John Fitch* an excluſive right to the uſe of ſteam and fire, ſo far as the ſame can or may be applied to the propelling boats, on any navigable waters within the limits of *Pennſylvania*. The preamble recites, that he had repreſented to the Houſe his having invented a method of urging or forcing a boat to ſail againſt the ſtream by the means above mentioned. The conſideration, therefore, of the grant, or the inducement the government had to give the excluſive right to *John Fitch*, was, his diſcovering *a certain mode* of ſailing againſt the ſtream by the uſe of ſteam and fire.

The law veſting in him this excluſive right is in nature of *a general covenant or warranty*, that if ſuch repreſentation, on his part, be true, government, on its part, will ſecure to him the excluſive right to his *preciſe diſcovery*, whatever that may be. The particular conſtruction of the boats, or in what manner the ſteam is to be applied, does not appear in the act of Aſſembly. Should a liberal interpretation of the law be adopted, it ought not therefore to give *John Fitch* any thing farther, than an excluſive right to whatever he may have *actually* invented towards attaining the great object of propelling boats againſt the ſtream: And indeed, as all laws ought to receive a reaſonable conſtruction, it would be improper to give him any thing more.

Suppoſe

Suppoſe *John Fitch*'s repreſentation of his having made a diſcovery for the purpoſe mentioned in the act to be entirely groundleſs: In this caſe I ſhould think, the cauſe or conſideration of the grant failing, the grant itſelf would be merely void. Upon the ſame principles I apprehend the grant to *John Fitch* ſhould be confined to the *identical diſcovery* he had actually made, at the time of his application and grant.

The terms made uſe of in the act, it is true, are comprehenſive; but there are many inſtances in the law, where general expreſſions are reſtrained by the nature of the grant or ſubject, and receive a more confined and reaſonable interpretation.

The ſeventh ſection of the Statute of the twenty-firſt of *James* the Firſt, chapter the third, does indeed provide, that *that* act ſhall not injure any grant or privilege before made by act of Parliament, ſo long as the ſame ſhall continue in force. In like manner, and on ſimilar principles of juſtice, the law propoſed to be paſſed by the reſolve of the committee will, from the nature and deſign of it, leave *John Fitch* in the entire and *excluſive poſſeſſion* of ſuch *ſpecific diſcovery* as he has *actually* made; and this I take to be the true intent and meaning of the act of *March* 1787, in his favor.

I conclude the Houſe can, conſiſtently with the principles of law, juſtice and the conſtitution, enact a law upon the principles of the report before the Houſe, in the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and *James Rumſey*.

JACOB RUSH.

Philadelphia county, March 23*d*, 1789.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the taxes aſſeſſed on the perſons and taxable property within the county of *Montgomery*, for the year 1788.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Briggs* was read, ſetting forth, that he has invented a machine for the making of ſpikes, nails and gimblet irons, and praying the excluſive right of manufacturing the ſame may be granted him for a term of years.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow* was read, praying this Houſe to direct payment of their accounts for repairing the arms of the militia of the county of *Philadelphia*, out of the unappropriated funds of this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, Mr. *Robertſon* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That they have received of the State Treaſurer, in the bills of credit emitted by act of Aſſembly of the 16th of *March*, 1785, on loan, and paid into the Treaſury by the Loan Officer, the ſum of *three thouſand pounds*, in bills of the following denominations, *viz.*

1200 bills of *twenty ſhillings* each,	£ 1200	0	0
2000 ditto of *fifteen ſhillings* each,	1500	0	0
400 ditto of *ten ſhillings* each,	200	0	0
400 ditto of *five ſhillings* each,	100	0	0
	£ 3000	0	0

All which bills your committee have examined, counted, burned and deſtroyed, agreeably to law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on claims, on the petition of *George P. Gruber*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims report——

That they have had under their conſideration the petition of *George P. Gruber*, and find that he left the army in the month of *April*, 1780, and it does not appear he afterwards rejoined it, and therefore is not entitled to any compenſation: They therefore recommend,

That *George P. Gruber* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee on the petition of 162 inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in *Dauphin* county, read *March* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That there is no cauſe for legiſlative interpoſition in the caſe of the diſputed line of *Dauphin* county.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Peter Shaffner*, read *March* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Peter Shaffner* cannot be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee on the letter from the Preſident reſpecting the repairs of the State-Houſe, read *March* 20th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to have the neceſſary repairs done, by contract, to the State-Houſe, and the wings thereof, and to draw their warrant or warrants on the State Treaſurer, for any ſum or ſums not exceeding *eleven hundred pounds* in the whole, for that purpoſe.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Benjamin Mavy*, poſtponed *February* 16th.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *John Hewſon*, poſtponed *March* 21ſt. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to authorize the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order or orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *two hundred pounds*, to be paid to the ſaid *John Hewſon*, callico printer and bleacher, out of the money appropriated for ſuch purpoſes, in four inſtalments, he giving ſufficient ſecurity that ſaid monies ſhall be applied to his occupation or employment

ment of callico printer and bleacher, and alſo he giving ſufficient ſecurity for the re-payment of ſaid money within years.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee appointed to examine into the powers of the Comptroller-General, and the mode of tranſacting the buſineſs in that office, read *March* 23d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell*,

To poſtpone the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following motion in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Whereas it is the duty of the government of this commonwealth to take every proper meaſure to check and examine the proceedings of the ſeveral officers thereof, and to aſcertain, upon the plaineſt evidence, that the public, as well as individuals, ſuſtain no damage from their conduct: And whereas, notwithſtanding the proceedings of the Comptroller-General in the ſettlement of accounts are laid before the executive authority of the ſtate, in the reſpective ſettlements of the accounts of the commonwealth, ſo that no ground of jealouſy can exiſt on that head, yet he hath, in addition to the ſettlement of accounts, been entruſted, by ſundry acts of the Legiſlature, to iſſue certificates without controul, which are payable to aſſignees and bearers, for the depreciation of the pay of the army and navy, for the New-Loan debt, and for balances due by the ſtate on accounts ſettled: And whereas the granting of certificates of depreciation as aforeſaid terminated in *April* 1787, and that of the New-Loan ended the 1ſt of *March* 1788, ſo that a period is put to the ſaid buſineſs, ſo far as reſpects the iſſue of the ſaid two claſſes of certificates: And whereas a great proportion alſo of the certificates have been iſſued for the balances due as aforeſaid, and it is juſt, proper and neceſſary, that an examination ſhould take place, as well to ſatisfy the good people intereſted therein, as for the juſtification of the conduct of the officer in whom this important truſt hath been repoſed, by enquiring whether the certificates agree with the accounts for which they have been iſſued, and whether no other or greater amount againſt the ſtate hath been granted; and whether the continental certificates received correſpond with the amount of the certificates delivered out for them, checking the whole by the entries thereof made at the treaſury on payments of intereſt: And whereas the laws direct theſe accounts and tranſactions ſubject to the inſpection and examination of the Supreme Executive Council from time to time: Therefore *Reſolved*, That the Comptroller-General be directed immediately to lay the ſame before the Supreme Executive Council, or a committee of that board, for their examination and ſettlement.

And whereas it appears, from the repreſentation of the committee, that the books of the Comptroller's Office have not been brought up to the preſent time, and he hath repreſented the multiplicity of his buſineſs, and his want of further aſſiſtance to perform the ſame: And whereas more buſineſs hath been lately put upon him: Therefore *Reſolved*, That he be allowed the ſame ſum for clerks wages as hath been allowed to each of the officers of the Land Office for their clerks, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Reſolved, That the books aforeſaid be laid before the Legiſlature, or a committee thereof, as they may direct, at their next ſeſſion.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *Joſeph Sands,*
6 *John Ludwig,*
7 *John Piper,*
8 *James Barr,*
9 *John Irwin,*
10 *William Todd,*

YEAS.

11 *James Marſhall,*
12 *James Alliſon,*
13 *Alexander Wright,*
14 *John Gilchreeſt,*
15 *Theophilus Philips,*
16 *James M‘Lene,*
17 *Robert Lollar,*
18 *Peter Richards,*
19 *Jacob Miley,*
20 *Adam Orth.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *Lawrence Sickle,*
5 *William Lewis,*
6 *William M‘Pherſon,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Samuel Foulke,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *Mark Wilcox,*
17 *John M‘Dowell,*
18 *Caleb James,*

NAYS.

19 *Richard Downing,* jun.
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *James Cunningham,*
22 *Henry Dering,*
23 *Thomas Lilley,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *Henry Tyſon,*
26 *Daniel Brodhead,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
29 *Stephen Balliot,*
30 *Jacob Saylor,*
31 *Samuel Maclay,*
32 *John White,*
33 *Jacob Reiff,*
34 *Jonathan Roberts,*
35 *Obadiah Gore,*
36 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And the original reſolution contained in the report recurring, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint an officer, whoſe duty it ſhall be to methodize, ſtate and keep the accounts of this commonwealth, for a ſalary of *pounds per annum.*

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To inſert, after the word “ *commonwealth*”, the words “ *in future.*”

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?*”—

It was carried in the negative,

And the original reſolution reported by the committee adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the ſaid reſolution.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as directs the payment of the intereſt on the New Loan debt beyond the firſt day of* April *next, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the third time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the intereſt due and to grow due upon all and every the certificates iſſued by the Comptroller-General in purſuance of the ſaid act of Aſſembly of the firſt of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, and of the ſupplement thereto of the twenty-eighth of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, commonly called new loan certificates, ſhall be paid up to the firſt day of *April* now next coming, in the manner and form by the ſaid recited act of the firſt of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, directed and ſpecified, and no longer; and that to ſecure the payment thereof, all and every the ſum and ſums of money which at the time of the paſſing of this act ſhall be in, or which ſhall hereafter come into the treaſury of this ſtate, ariſing from the duties and impoſts laid upon the importation of goods, wares and merchandizes, into this ſtate, by any acts of the Aſſembly thereof (except the duties and impoſts laid by an act paſſed the twentieth of *September*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, commonly called the protecting duties) ſhall be, and they are hereby appropriated, ſolely and excluſively, to the payment of the ſaid intereſt up to the ſaid firſt day of *April* next, until the whole thereof ſhall be fully paid and diſcharged; and that ſo much of all and every act and acts of the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, as directs or ſecures the payment of intereſt on the ſaid new loan certificates beyond or accruing after the ſaid firſt day of *April* next, ſhall be, and the ſame is and are hereby repealed and declared null and void.”

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Pherſon*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid paragraph, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

“ Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the intereſt due and to become due and payable upon all and every the certificates iſſued by the Comptroller General, in purſuance of the ſaid recited acts, or either of them, ſhall be paid up ſo as to compleat the payment of intereſt to four years; and that ſo much of every act or acts of General Aſſembly, as directs or ſecures the payment of the principal ſum or ſums in the ſaid certificates or any of them mentioned, or of the intereſt thereof, beyond the term of four years, ſhall be and the ſame is hereby repealed and made null and void.”

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*”—

It was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed paragraph adopted.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ And in order to entitle the holders of the ſaid new loan certificates to demand and receive from the treaſury of the United States, the principal and intereſt to them reſpectively due and accruing after the ſaid

" firſt day of *April* next, in ſuch manner as the Congreſs ſhall appoint, or otherwiſe, it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Comptroller General of this ſtate ſhall, and he is hereby authoriſed, enjoined and required, upon the requeſt of the holder and holders of any of the ſaid new loan certificate or certificates, producing and offering the ſame to him, to receive the ſame, and to deliver to ſuch holder and holders all and every the certificate and certificates of the United States, which were delivered to him at the time of iſſuing ſuch new loan certificates in lieu thereof, firſt endorſing on the ſaid Continental or United States certificates all and every ſum and ſums of money which ſhall have been paid for or towards the intereſt on the principal ſum due thereon, by virtue of the ſaid acts of Aſſembly, and rendering the indorſements of intereſt paid uniform on the certificate or certificates received with the certificate or certificates delivered out in exchange therefor, and keeping regular entries, in a book or books to be kept for the purpoſe, of the certificates which he ſhall receive into his office, and deliver out in purſuance of this act, in the like manner and form, and copies thereof ſhall be laid before the Supreme Executive Council from time to time, as the ſaid Council ſhall require, the ſame, together with the original certificates ſo by him received, to be compared with the ſaid books, and checked and examined in ſuch way as by the ninth ſection of the ſaid recited act of the firſt of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, is directed, appointed, required and provided."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid paragraph, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

" And whereas many who have exchanged the certificates of the United States, for certificates iſſued by this ſtate in lieu thereof as aforeſaid, may be deſirous of taking back the ſame, or other of like value, and it is juſt and reaſonable that they ſhould be at liberty ſo to do: And whereas difficulties may ariſe in equalizing the intereſt paid by this ſtate to the holders of the ſaid certificates, iſſued in purſuance of the ſaid recited acts or either of them, with the intereſt received by this ſtate from the United States:

" Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council ſhall be, and they are hereby authoriſed and empowered to cauſe, in ſuch mode and manner, and under ſuch regulations as to them may ſeem beſt, all ſuch certificates as have been loaned to this ſtate in purſuance of the ſaid recited acts, or of either of them, or other certificates to the like amount, on the holder or holders of the certificate or certificates iſſued by this ſtate in lieu thereof as aforeſaid applying therefor, to be returned or delivered to him or them, through the office of the Comptroller General, in certificates ſo as aforeſaid loaned to this ſtate, or in ſuch as have been received in the land office of this ſtate; provided that no certificates ſhall be ſo returned or delivered, until the intereſt paid by this ſtate on the certificate or certificates iſſued by this commonwealth as aforeſaid ſhall be equalized, and the overplus or balance beyond what has been in every ſuch caſe received by this ſtate from the United States ſhall be repaid, in indents of the United States, to the Comptroller General, for the uſe of this ſtate; and in every caſe where this ſtate ſhall have received more intereſt from the United States than ſhall have been paid on the certificates ſo as aforeſaid iſſued by this

" ſtate, the Comptroller General ſhall, and he is hereby required to pay " ſuch overplus, in indents of the United States, to the holder or holders " of ſuch certificates."

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the afore-" ſaid purpoſe ?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed paragraph adopted.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act to enable* John Hewſon *to enlarge and carry on the buſineſs of callico " printing and bleaching within this ſtate,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* " An " Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein " mentioned, for the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes therein " mentioned," *as impoſes a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of any riding car-" riages, other than coaches, chariots, phætons, or other four wheeled chaiſes,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to " eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to " grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,*" and having conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate fences, and to aſcertain a mode " of proceeding in caſes of cattle treſpaſſing,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to appropriate divers funds, accruing and " growing due to this commonwealth, towards the payment of the expences of " government, and to provide a fund for other purpoſes,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of " Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common " Hall in the city of* Philadelphia, *and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of*

"Dickinſon College, *in the Borough of* Carliſle," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral laws of this common-"wealth reſpecting attachments,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to aſſiſt the cotton manufactures of this ſtate,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to "enable the Land Officers to iſſue relocating warrants in the caſes therein de-"ſcribed.*"

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the "Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, "and by the authority of the ſame, That the Secretary of the land office, "on a certificate being produced to him from the Deputy-Surveyor of the "diſtrict wherein the lands in ſuch unſatisfied warrants lie, together with "a regular chain of title, if other than the original warrantee ſhall claim "the benefit of this act, expreſly mentioning the warrant under which "the land deſcribed in ſuch unſatisfied warrant was taken away, ſo that no "land hath been or could have been with juſtice or propriety ſurveyed "under ſuch unſatisfied warrant, ſhall iſſue, and he is hereby impowered "and directed to iſſue a new or relocating warrant for a tract or tracts of "land, equal in quantity to that mentioned in ſuch unſatisfied warrants, "particularly deſcribing the lands granted by ſuch relocating warrant, and "locating the ſame within the purchaſe made of the *Indians* in or previous "to the year 1768, which, on payment of the legal fees, and being ſent to "the Supreme Executive Council, ſhall be ſigned and executed, in like man-"ner with other warrants on which the purchaſe monies have been paid to "the Receiver-General."

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid paragraph, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof.

"And whereas in many caſes it appears by the Receiver-General's books, "on the ſettlement of accounts previous to the granting of patents, that "there is not ſo much land returned in the ſurvey as was paid for at iſſuing "the warrants, and it being reaſonable and juſt that ſuch perſons ſhould "have a compenſation in other lands: Be it therefore enacted, and it is "hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the common-"wealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority "of the ſame, That where any perſon has or hereafter ſhall pay money "to the Receiver-General of the land office, as purchaſe money of land "which he cannot fully have ſurveyed, as located in ſuch warrant or grant, "by reaſon of ſurveys being duly made and returned upon prior warrants "or other office rights, ſuch perſon, upon a certificate being produced to "the Secretary of the land office from the Deputy-Surveyor of the diſtrict

" wherein the lands in ſuch unſatisfied warrants lie (together with a regular " chain of title, if other than the original warrantee ſhall claim the benefit " of this act) expreſly mentioning the prior warrant or other office right " under which the land deſcribed in ſuch unſatisfied warrant or grant was " ſurveyed, ſhall be deemed and allowed to have paid ſo much money or " ſurplus money (as the caſe may be) into the land office, and may apply " ſaid money either to the ſettlement of any unſettled account ſuch perſon " may have in the Receiver-General's office, or to the purchaſing of any " unappropriated lands within this ſtate, according to the laws and cuſtoms " of the land office for the time being."

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 26, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the petition of *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow* was referred, report——

That it appears the ſaid petitioners were employed to repair the public arms uſed by the militia of the ſtate; that the Supreme Executive Council have drawn warrants, payable out of the militia funds of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* but that money is not in the hands of the Treaſurer to ſatisfy the ſame; that the Executive are not authorized by law to draw on any other fund:

Your committee are of opinion, that the deficiency of the militia fund is in a great meaſure cauſed by the act ſuſpending the collection of militia fines, whilſt individuals employed by the public are thereby detained out of the payment they had an unqueſtionable right to expect for their labours, and it is highly probable they muſt much longer be detained, unleſs ſome other means be taken for their relief: The committee therefore ſubmit a reſolution,

That a committee be appointed to report a bill, to enable the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Joſeph Perkins,* for   , and in favor of *Abraham Morrow,* for   , being the amount of their demands upon this commonwealth, as ſettled by the Comptroller-General.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General inform this Houſe to what times the Lieutenants of the city of *Philadelphia* and the ſeveral counties of the ſtate have ſettled their accounts.

The committee appointed *March* 5th, on the memorial of *William Moore,* Eſquire, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the memorial of *William Moore,* Eſquire, report——

That the caſe of Mr. *Moore* appears a very hard one, in which, however, in the opinion of the committee, the Houſe have it not in their power to grant relief; for, independent of other conſiderations which might make the propriety of it queſtionable, the preſent impoveriſhed ſtate of the finances would by no means admit of it: The committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

That Mr. *Moore* have leave to withdraw his memorial.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 17th, on the petition from ſundry inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburg*, in *Cumberland* county, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſundry of the inhabitants of *Shippenſburg* townſhip, in *Cumberland* county, report——

That they have attended to that duty, and are of opinion that the law that aſcertains the boundary line between *Franklin* and *Cumberland* counties is not ſo clear and expreſſive as it ought to be: Therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to fix and eſtabliſh the original line between *Lurgan* and *Hopewell* townſhips to be the boundary line between *Franklin* county and *Cumberland* county, excepting all that tract of land belonging to *Edward Shippen,* Eſquire, whereon the town of *Shippenſburg* is erected, which ſhall be and remain in the county of *Cumberland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *March* 5th, the report on the petition of *David Miller,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of *David Miller,* of *Cumberland* county, beg leave to report——

That a well regulated ferry over *Juniata,* at the mouth of *Raccoon* creek, would be of great public utility, as it is on the great road laid out and leading from *Carliſle* to *Sunbury* and many of the back counties, and are of opinion that *David Miller,* on the north ſide of *Juniata* river, and the owners of the land on the ſouth ſide of ſaid river, at the mouth of *Raccoon* creek, ought to be indulged to land each on their oppoſite ſhore of ſaid river: Therefore

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, enabling *David Miller* and the owners of land at the mouth of *Raccoon* creek to erect and keep a ferry acroſs *Juniata* river, and to land each on their oppoſite ſhore.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*enable the Land Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein de-* "*ſcribed;*" and

On motion of Mr. *Lowrey,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until next ſeſſion.

The bill, entituled "*An Act relating to meadows on the iſland of* Tinicum, "*in the county of* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to amend an act, entituled* "An Act for "amending the penal laws of this ſtate," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Wynkoop*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William M'Pherſon*,
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *Valentine Upp*,
9 *Richard Thomas*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Mark Wilcox*,
12 *John M'Dowell*,
13 *Caleb James*,
14 *Richard Downing*, jun.
15 *Alexander Lowrey*,
16 *James Cunningham*,
17 *Henry Dering*,
18 *Thomas Lilley*,
19 *Michael Schmyſer*,
20 *Henry Tyſon*,
21 *Jonathan Hoge*,
22 *Joſeph Sands*,
23 *Daniel Brodhead*,
24 *John Ludwig*,
25 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
26 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
27 *Stephen Balliot*,
28 *Jacob Saylor*,
29 *John Piper*,
30 *John White*,
31 *James Barr*,
32 *John Irwin*,
33 *James Marſhall*,
34 *Alexander Wright*,
35 *John Gilchreeſt*,
36 *Theophilus Philips*,
37 *James M'Lene*,
38 *James Johnſon*,
39 *Robert Lollar*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *Peter Richards*,
42 *Jonathan Roberts*,
43 *Jacob Miley*,
44 *Adam Orth*,
45 *John Carſon*,
46 *Obadiah Gore*,
47 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *William Lewis*,
2 *John Salter*,
3 *George Logan*,
4 *Thomas Clingan*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Samuel Maclay*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating the times to which the ſeveral Lieutenants of the city of *Philadelphia* and the ſeveral counties of the ſtate have ſettled their accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the caſe conteſted between *John Fitch* and *James Rumſey*: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration thereof until next ſeſſion.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting the ſum of* one hundred " pounds, *towards defraying the expence of reviewing and laying out the* " *ſtate road between the town of* Bedford *and* Pittſburgh, *and alſo the ſum* " *of* one hundred and fifty pounds, *for the compleating a road from the* " Falls *of* Neſcopeck, *on the river* Suſquehanna, *and the* Union Saw-Mill, " *on the river* Lehigh," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act relating to Sheriffs*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation and ſupport of the* " *poor of* Cheſter *county*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable* John Hewſon *to enlarge and carry* " *on the buſineſs of callico printing and bleaching within this ſtate*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Balliot*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

Reſolved, That 1000 copies in the *Engliſh* language, and 500 copies in the *German* language, of the reſolution adopted *March* 24th relative to the calling a Convention, be printed, and diſtributed for the information of the citizens of this ſtate.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to appropriate divers funds, accruing and growing due to this commonwealth, towards the payment of the expences of government, and to provide a fund for other purpoſes.*

An ACT *to aſſiſt the cotton manufactures of this ſtate.*

An ACT *to enable the Rector, Church-Wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St.* John, *at* York-Town, *to mortgage the parſonage houſe and certain lots of ground.*

An ACT *to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* " An Act for raiſing " and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein mentioned, for " the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," " *as impoſes a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of any one horſe two wheeled* " *ſulky, ſolo, chair or chaiſe, or of any covered family waggon, commonly* " *called a caravan.*"

An ACT *for the incorporation of the College of Phyſicians of* Philadelphia.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday,

Friday, March 27, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of the roads therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Mr. *Fitzſimons,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for the im*"*provement of certain public roads, and the navigation of certain rivers, therein mentioned;*" and having obtained leave of the Houſe for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when the ſame was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the appointment of a Regiſter-Gene*"*ral, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Barr,*

To fill up the firſt blank with the words, "*by the Supreme Executive* "*Council.*"

Which was carried in the negative.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report of the committee on the petition of ſundry of the inhabitants of *Shippenſburg* townſhip, in *Cumberland* county, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to fix and eſtabliſh the original line between *Lurgan* and *Hopewell* townſhips to be the boundary line between *Franklin* county and *Cumberland* county, excepting all that tract of land belonging to *Edward Shippen,* Eſquire, whereon the town of *Shippenſburg* is erected, which ſhall be and remain in the county of *Cumberland.*

Ordered, That the members from the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common Hall in the city of* Philadelphia, *and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of* Dickinſon College, *in the borough of* Carliſle.

An ACT *to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as directs the payment of the intereſt on the New Loan debt beyond the firſt day of* April *next, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to eſtabliſh a board "of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia,* and for other purpoſes therein "mentioned."

An ACT *to prevent the granting of ſpecial courts on the plaintiff*'s *application.*

An ACT *for the more effectual collection of the poor tax in the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and the* Northern Liberties, *and to provide in a more convenient and ſalutary manner for the confinement of diſorderly perſons found and apprehended in the ſaid city, diſtrict and townſhips.*

An ACT *for granting trials at Niſi Prius in the county of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to incorporate the* Newtown *Library Company, in* Bucks *county.*

An ACT *to enable the Juſtices of the Orphans Court to authorize and empower* Frances Budden *to ſell and convey ſo much of the lands and tenements of her late huſband,* James Budden, *deceaſed, as ſhall be neceſſary for the payment of his debts, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to prevent the importation of convicts into this commonwealth.*

An ACT *to enable* John Hewſon *to enlarge and carry on the buſineſs of callico printing and bleaching within this ſtate.*

Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lewis* having propoſed a rider to the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate,* "*and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,*" and the ſame being read, it was, on motion and by ſpecial order, read the ſecond and third times, and fully conſidered.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed with the ſaid bill, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Cadwalader Evans* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Maclay* have leave of abſence for the remaining part of this ſeſſion.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the improvement of certain public roads,* "*and the navigation of certain rivers, therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for* "*the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate,*" was read the third time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſem-"bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That there be, and by this "act there is erected and eſtabliſhed, within this ſtate, an office, to be "called the Office for Regiſtering the Public Accounts, which ſhall be "kept in ſome part of the State-Houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia,* to be "aſſigned for the purpoſe by the Supreme Executive Council, and that the "officer who ſhall ſuperintend the ſame, and execute the duties thereof,

" ſhall be appointed from time to time by the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and ſhall be called The Regiſter-General of the Public Accounts of the State of *Pennſylvania*; which officer ſhall be entitled to have and receive, in full for all his ſervices, the ſum of   *per annum*, out of the monies appropriated by an act, entituled "*An Act to appropriate divers funds, accruing and growing due to this commonwealth, towards the payment of the expences of government, and to provide a fund for other purpoſes,*" enacted the twenty-ſixth day of *March* inſtant, to be paid to him quarterly, by virtue of orders to be drawn by the Supreme Executive Council on the State Treaſurer, beſides all his reaſonable charges for books, ſtationary, and the hire of ſuch and ſo many clerks, as in the opinion of Council ſhall be neceſſary for his aſſiſtance in performing the ſervices by this act required."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

To fill the blank, after the words "*the ſum of*," with "*five hundred pounds*."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M'Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Mark Wilcox*,
15 *John M'Dowell*,
16 *Caleb James*,

YEAS.

17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Thomas Lilley*,
19 *Michael Schmyſer*,
20 *Daniel Brodhead*,
21 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
22 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
23 *Stephen Balliot*,
24 *Jacob Saylor*,
25 *Samuel Maclay*,
26 *John White*,
27 *John Irwin*,
28 *James Johnſon*,
29 *Jacob Reiff*,
30 *John Carſon*,
31 *Obadiah Gore*,
32 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *John Chapman*,
2 *Valentine Upp*,
3 *Richard Downing*, jun.
4 *Henry Tyſon*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Jonathan Hoge*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *John Ludwig*,
11 *John Piper*,
12 *James Barr*,

NAYS.

13 *William Todd*,
14 *James Marſhall*,
15 *James Alliſon*,
16 *Alexander Wright*,
17 *John Gilchreeſt*,
18 *Theophilus Philips*,
19 *James M'Lene*,
20 *Robert Lollar*,
21 *Jonathan Roberts*,
22 *Jacob Miley*,
23 *Adam Orth*.

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the blank filled up accordingly.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſixth clauſe be poſtponed.

In conſidering the following clauſe, *viz.*

"And it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That ſo much of an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the fourth day of *April*, *Anno Domini* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, as authoriſed the appointment of the preſent or any future Comptroller General for the term of ſeven years, if he ſhall ſo long behave himſelf well, ſhall be, and the ſame is hereby repealed and made void; and that from and after the paſſing of this act, the Comptroller General ſhall hold his ſaid office during the pleaſure of the Supreme Executive Council."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M'Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Samuel Foulke*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *James Moore*,
16 *Mark Wilcox*,
17 *John M'Dowell*,
18 *Caleb James*,
19 *Richard Downing*, jun.

YEAS.

20 *Alexander Lowrey*,
21 *James Cunningham*,
22 *Henry Dering*,
23 *Thomas Lilley*,
24 *Michael Schmyſer*,
25 *Henry Tyſon*,
26 *Joſeph Sands*,
27 *Daniel Brodhead*,
28 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
29 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
30 *Stephen Balliot*,
31 *Jacob Saylor*,
32 *Samuel Maclay*,
33 *John White*,
34 *Jacob Reiff*,
35 *Jonathan Roberts*,
36 *John Carſon*,
37 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Jonathan Hoge*,
5 *John Ludwig*,
6 *John Piper*,
7 *James Barr*,
8 *John Irwin*,
9 *James Marſhall*,
10 *James Alliſon*,

NAYS.

11 *Alexander Wright*,
12 *John Gilchreeſt*,
13 *Theophilus Philips*,
14 *James M'Lene*,
15 *James Johnſon*,
16 *Robert Lollar*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *Adam Orth*,
19 *Obadiah Gore*.

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the ſaid clauſe adopted.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,*" together with the rider thereto annexed, having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *in aid of the roads therein mentioned.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly for the relief of inſolvent debtors.*

An ACT *to amend an act, entituled* "An Act for amending the penal "laws of this ſtate."

Adjourned until half paſt eight o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 28, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That *Margaret Smyth* have leave to withdraw her petition.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the* "*accounts of this ſtate*," and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being* "*enacted into a law?*"—The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Lawrence Sickle*,
5 *William Lewis*,
6 *William M‘Pherſon*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Samuel Foulke*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *James Moore*,
16 *Mark Wilcox*,
17 *John M‘Dowell*,
18 *Caleb James*,

YEAS.

19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Henry Dering*,
21 *Thomas Clingan*,
22 *Thomas Lilley*,
23 *Michael Schmyſer*,
24 *Joſeph Sands*,
25 *Daniel Brodhead*,
26 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
27 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
28 *Stephen Balliot*,
29 *Jacob Saylor*,
30 *John White*,
31 *John Irwin*,
32 *Jacob Reiff*,
33 *John Carſon*,
34 *Obadiah Gore*,
35 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Richard Downing*, jun.
2 *David Mitchell*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Jonathan Hoge*,
6 *John Ludwig*,

NAYS.

7 *John Piper*,
8 *James Barr*,
9 *William Todd*,
10 *James Marſhall*,
11 *James Alliſon*,
12 *Alexander Wright*,

NAYS.
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*
14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *James M'Lene,*
16 *James Johnſon,*

NAYS.
17 *Robert Lollar,*
18 *Jonathan Roberts,*
19 *Jacob Miley,*
20 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Brodhead,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lollar* be added to the committee, appointed *March* 19th, on the memorial of *Edward Shippen,* Eſquire.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,* and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears to this Houſe that *John M'Calmont,* of the county of *Bucks,* has been by due courſe of law ejected from a tract of land by him purchaſed from the commonwealth, and that he is entitled to receive from the State Treaſury the ſum of *five hundred and ſeven pounds eighteen ſhillings and four-pence* by reaſon thereof; and whereas by an act paſſed in the preſent ſeſſion it is directed that the ſum of *ten thouſand pounds* annually be ſet apart, for the payment of juſt claims upon this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, for *five hundred and ſeven pounds eighteen ſhillings and four-pence* in favor of *John M'Calmont,* payable out of the fund appropriated by the act, entituled "*An* "*Act to appropriate divers funds, accruing and growing due to this common-* "*wealth, towards the payment of the expences of government, and to provide a* "*fund for other purpoſes.*"

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties,* read *March* 2d and 4th, for and againſt annexing part of the ſaid townſhip to the city of *Philadelphia,* were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,* as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears to be highly important that the ſurveys of the ſtate roads ſhould be immediately made, to enable Council to judge of what alterations or improvements may be neceſſary, and that the General Aſſembly may have due information upon that ſubject: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered forthwith to appoint ſix Commiſſioners, whoſe duty it ſhall be to ſurvey the ſtate road leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the borough of *Lancaſter,* and from thence to the borough of *York,* and thence to *Pittſburg.*

The ſtate road leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the borough of *Reading,* in the county of *Berks,* and to extend the ſurvey thereof ſo far as Council ſhall think proper to direct.

The ſtate road leading from *Philadelphia* to *Bethlehem,* in the county of *Northampton,* and to continue the ſurvey as far as Council ſhall direct.—Together with ſuch other grounds as they may think neceſſary for ſtraightening or improving the ſaid roads; and that the Commiſſioners ſo to be appointed

pointed do make report to the Supreme Executive Council, before the next ſitting of the General Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing reſolution?*"—It was carried in the negative.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to the following perſons for printing for this Houſe, *viz.*

A balance to *Thomas Bradford*, of *one hundred and ninety-two pounds ſix ſhillings and one penny.*

To *Michael Billmeyer, one hundred and thirty-two pounds five ſhillings and four-pence.*

To *Daniel Humphreys, ſeven pounds ſixteen ſhillings and two-pence.*

To *Francis Bailey, ſix pounds eight ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

Therefore, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Thomas Bradford*, for the ſum of *one hundred and ninety-two pounds ſix ſhillings and one penny*, being the balance of his account.

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, for the ſum of *one hundred and thirty-two pounds five ſhillings and four-pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Daniel Humphreys*, for the ſum of *ſeven pounds ſixteen ſhillings and two-pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Francis Bailey*, for the ſum of *ſix pounds eight ſhillings and ſix-pence*, in full of his account.

The committee of accounts made a further report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That they have examined the accounts of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Eſquire, Clerk of the General Aſſembly, of the expenditure of the ſum of *one hundred and fifty pounds*, drawn by him, by two reſolves of the Houſe, for payment of the contingent expences thereof, and find a balance in his hands amounting to *fifteen pounds twelve ſhillings and eight-pence*, but as there are conſiderable ſums yet due for ſervices performed during the preſent ſeſſion, which ought immediately to be paid: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of the ſaid *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds*, to pay the incidental expences of this Houſe, for which he ſhall account with the committee of accounts.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Reſolved, That the Clerk of this Houſe be directed to collect and arrange the papers of the General Aſſembly before their next ſeſſion.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for *fifty pounds*, for his extra ſervices duing the receſs of the Houſe.

In favor of *Jacob Shallus*, for *fifty pounds*, for his extra ſervices.

In favor of *James Martin*, Scrjeant at Arms, for *fifteen pounds*, for his extra ſervices.

In favor of *Joſeph Fry*, Door-keeper, for *fifteen pounds*, for his extra ſervices.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " A Supplement to the act, " entituled " An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes " within this commonwealth."

An ACT *for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate.*

Mr. *Wright*, in his place, read a paper, containing his reaſons for altering his opinion on the ſubject of the vote of the 24th inſtant, for the purpoſe of calling a Convention.

On motion,

Ordered, That the ſame be inſerted on the minutes, as follows, *viz.*

WHEN the Houſe agreed to the reſolution which recommends to the citizens of this commonwealth to take under their conſideration the neceſſity of a ſpeedy alteration and amendment of the conſtitution of this ſtate, I voted in favor of the meaſure, becauſe I then thought it a neceſſary expedient to prevent the embarraſſment which the officers of government would be ſubjected to, by ſwearing to ſupport two conſtitutions, which are in many reſpects contradictory and repugnant to each other; but, upon mature deliberation, I am convinced that the reſolution itſelf is a violation of that oath of office under which we now act, and tends, in the firſt inſtance, to involve us in that guilt which it propoſes to prevent at a future day.

Under theſe impreſſions, having requeſted the Houſe to reſcind my vote on the minutes, which they refuſed as being out of order, I am, therefore, conſtrained, for the preſervation of a good conſcience, to take this mode of teſtifying againſt and diſſenting from the reſolution.

ALEX. WRIGHT.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws, reported that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth.*

II. *An* ACT *to eſtabliſh a volunteer company of artillery in the city of* Philadelphia.

III. *An* ACT *to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend the powers " of the Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county."

IV. *An* ACT *for granting to the corporation of the Miniſters, Veſtrymen and Church Wardens of the* German *Lutheran congregation in and near the city of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation.*

V. *An* ACT *to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia, *and the neighbourhood thereof.*

VI. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act for erecting " part of *Bedford* county into a ſeparate county."

VII. *An* ACT *to repeal part of an act, entituled* " An Act to confirm " the eſtates and intereſts of the College, Academy and Charitable School of " the city of *Philadelphia*, and to amend and alter the charters thereof, con- " formably to the revolution and to the conſtitution and government of this " commonwealth, and to erect the ſame into an Univerſity."

VIII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia.

IX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act more effec- " tually to prevent unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for " exportation, and to regulate the exportation of flax-ſeed, butter and biſ- " cuit in kegs."

X. *An* ACT *to repeal all the laws of this commonwealth requiring any oath or affirmation of allegiance from the inhabitants thereof."*

XI. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XII. *An* ACT *in aid of the* Callowhill *market, in the townſhip of the* Northern Liberties.

XIII. *An* ACT *for the relief of* Robert Beatty *and* Benjamin Moore, *inſolvent collectors, confined in the gaols of* Cumberland *and* Dauphin *counties.*

XIV. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers.*

XV. *An* ACT *for enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* " An " Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the " year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part " of the funded debt of this ſtate; for extending the time for patenting " lands which were located before the declaration of independency; and for " giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for " lands by them occupied."

XVI. *An* ACT *for compenſating* Evan Owen, *for ſupplies by him furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five.*

XVII. *An* ACT *empowering certain truſtees therein named to ſell and diſpoſe of a certain houſe and lot of ground, ſituate in the town of* Eaſton, *and county of* Northampton, *and to appropriate the monies ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the purchaſe of a parſonage or dwelling houſe for the miniſter of the four Proteſtant Evangelic Reformed* German *congregations,* to wit, *that* *of* Eaſton, Bethlehem, Plainfield *and* Greenwich *townſhips, for the time being.*

XVIII. *An* ACT *to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* "An Act for "raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein mention- "ed, for the ſupport of government, and for other purpoſes therein men- "tioned," *as impoſes a tax on the owners or poſſeſſors of any one horſe two* "*wheeled ſulky, ſolo, chair or chaiſe, or of any covered family waggon, com-* "*monly called a caravan.*"

XIX. *An* ACT *to appropriate divers funds, accruing and growing due to this commonwealth, towards the payment of the expences of government, and to provide a fund for other purpoſes.*

XX. *An* ACT *for the incorporation of the College of Phyſicians of* Philadelphia.

XXI. *An* ACT *to enable the Rector, Church-Wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St.* John, *at* York-Town, *to mortgage the parſonage houſe and certain lots of ground.*

XXII. *An* ACT *to aſſiſt the cotton manufactures of this ſtate.*

XXIII. *An* ACT *for the more effectual collection of the poor tax in the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and the* Northern Liberties, *and to provide in a more convenient and ſalutary manner for the confinement of diſorderly perſons found and apprehended in the ſaid city, diſtrict and townſhips.*

XXIV. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly for the relief of inſolvent debtors.*

XXV. *An* ACT *to prevent the granting of ſpecial courts on the plaintiff's application.*

XXVI. *An* ACT *for granting trials at Niſi Prius in the county of* Philadelphia.

XXVII. *An* ACT *to prevent the importation of convicts into this commonwealth.*

XXVIII. *An* ACT *to amend an act, entituled* "An Act for amending "the penal laws of this ſtate."

XXIX. *An* ACT *to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as directs the payment of the New Loan debt, or the intereſt thereof, beyond the firſt day of* April *next, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XXX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to eſtabliſh "a board of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia,* and for other purpoſes "therein mentioned."

XXXI. *An* ACT *to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines.*

XXXII. *An* ACT *in aid of the roads therein mentioned.*

XXXIII. *An* ACT *for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common Hall in the city of* Philadelphia, *and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of* Dickinſon College, *in the borough of* Carliſle.

XXXIV. *An* ACT *to enable the Juſtices of the Orphans Court to authorize and empower* Frances Budden *to ſell and convey ſo much of the lands and tenements of her late huſband,* James Budden, *deceaſed, as ſhall be neceſſary for the payment of his debts, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XXXV. *An* ACT *to enable* John Hewſon *to enlarge and carry on the buſineſs of callico printing and bleaching within this ſtate.*

XXXVI. *An* ACT *to incorporate the* Newtown *Library Company, in* Bucks *county.*

XXXVII. *An* ACT *for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate.*

XXXVIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " A Supple-
" ment to the act, entituled " An Act to enforce the due collection and
" payment of taxes within this commonwealth."

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

The Houſe then adjourned until the Third TUESDAY in AUGUST next.

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,

Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

APPENDIX.

The following Reaſons for diſſenting from the Reſolutions of the Houſe of March 24*th*, *reſpecting the calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering the Conſtitution of this Commonwealth, not having been handed in in time to be inſerted in their proper place, are here annexed.*

WE diſſent for the following reaſons:——

I. For that the conſtitution of this ſtate has wiſely provided for a peaceable and orderly reformation of our government, if it ſhall be thought to require it, by a Council of Cenſors, who are to be elected once in every ſeven years, and whoſe ſtated time of election and meeting will be in the next year: and although we admit that in our government, as well as in all others, the community hath a right to reform, alter, or aboliſh the government, in ſuch manner as a majority of the people ſhall think right; yet the people themſelves are ſufficiently able to judge when the neceſſity of a revolution ſhall arrive; and we think it highly improper, to ſay no more, that the ſervants of the people, appointed under the conſtitution, for the purpoſe of maintaining, ſupporting, and executing the conſtitution, who are bound by the ſolemnity of an oath to maintain the rights of the people, as declared in the conſtitution, ſhould undertake a meaſure like the preſent, which is evidently calculated, as far as the power and influence of this Houſe can extend, to ſubvert and deſtroy the conſtitution.

II. For that every government acquires reſpect and force from age, and the people are more diſpoſed to obedience, more pleaſed, and more happy, when, added to the authority of laws, their government has acquired the ſanction of ancient examples, and the veneration which all men are diſpoſed to pay to the opinions and practice of antiquity; and it is therefore of infinite conſequence to form a good conſtitution in the beginning, and to adhere to it when formed. Frequent changes in government naturally deſtroy that reſpect which is ſo eſſential to its weight and energy; one change leads to another, and frequent changes are too apt to end in the contempt of laws, confuſion and anarchy, even where they are effected in the moſt peaceable manner: but this is not all—the precedent eſtabliſhed on this occaſion will be introductory of a ruinous fluctuation in the principles of government; its conſequences may be feuds and factions. As few revolutions are brought about without bitter and laſting animoſities, contentions and violence, we cannot apprehend that anticipating one ſingle year, or even two years, in the attempt to change the form of government, is worth the endangering the peace of the community, and the riſque of bringing all government into irreparable contempt.

III. For that we cannot apprehend the preſent conſtitution of this ſtate to be in any wiſe inconſiſtent with the new fœderal conſtitution. The government of the United States we know to be paramount to our own, and that our laws cannot be ſuffered to interfere with theirs:—But we cannot conceive that our conſtitution is calculated to claſh with that of the United States, any more than thoſe of the other ſtates in the Union; and we do not find that the other ſtates have yet deemed it neceſſary to change their conſtitutions. Ours, as well as theirs, will be confined perhaps to fewer objects, and our laws will be more ſubject to controul than heretofore, but the conſtitution of the United States neither needs nor demands the alteration of the ſtate conſtitutions. The conſtitutions of the individual ſtates and that of the United States may move each in its own ſphere, without claſhing, for any thing we can diſcover to the contrary. The Judges of *Pennſylvania* will not be empowered to contradict the laws of the United States, but Judges of the ſeparate ſtates will be bound by the laws of the United States; and the Judges of the United States will be ſufficiently authoriſed, by the expreſs terms of their Conſtitution, to prevent the interference of our laws with theirs: For by the ſixth article of the fœderal conſtitution, that conſtitution, and "the laws of the United States which "ſhall be made in purſuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which ſhall "be made, under the authority of the United States, ſhall be the ſupreme law "of the land, and the Judges in every ſtate ſhall be bound thereby, any thing "in the conſtitution or laws of any ſtate to the contrary notwithſtanding." This reaſon therefore appears to us to be a mere pretence;—the fact is, that we are not authoriſed to judge of the extent of the powers and juriſdiction of the fœderal government; theſe are to be determined elſewhere, and nothing that one ſtate alone can do will either extend or abridge them; nor can we pretend to frame a government which ſhall quadrate with theirs. They will be bounded by no limits that we can preſcribe, but will exerciſe their powers in their own way, and in whatever extent may appear neceſſary to them. Nothing leſs than the combined authority of all the ſtates can ſet bounds to the powers of the fœderal government; and if a Convention of this ſtate were to attempt it, they might be found to vary from the opinion of the United States. Beſides, it is by no means improbable that the fœderal government may yet receive very material amendments, and that ſpeedily; ſo that if alterations were at all proper to be made in our government, in order to comply with the fœderal conſtitution, it would, even in that caſe, be our duty to wait the meeting of the new Congreſs, and the reſult of the applications from different ſtates for amendments.

IV. For that we apprehend one part of the preamble to the ſecond reſolution, and that part which will probably excite the moſt attention, which declares "the burthen and expences of the preſent form of government are "with difficulty borne," is unfounded in fact. By the ſtatement of the Comptroller-General, the expences of government, including incidental expences, is eſtimated at *twenty-eight thouſand pounds per annum*; and this in future will be conſiderably leſſened. The expences of government in *Virginia* are annually upwards of *forty thouſand pounds*, and in that of *Maſſachuſetts-Bay* upwards of *thirty thouſand pounds*; in each of them, conſiderably greater than that of *Pennſylvania*. And the true way of judging whether or not the preſent form of government is unfriendly to œconomy is, by comparing it with that of other ſtates, of the ſame, or nearly the ſame extent and number of inhabitants: Nor can we conceive that creating another branch of the Legiſlature (which is the avowed object of thoſe who wiſh for an alteration of the conſtitution) by which two ſetts of men are to be maintained in the Legiſlature inſtead of one, can leſſen the expence of government. The defect in the former ſyſtem of continental government conſiſted in the want of power in the United States, and not merely in the form of government. The ſtates under the old confederation had denied to Congreſs the power to fulfil its engagements either with foreigners or its own citizens; of collecting money, or regulating trade; in ſhort, it was deſtitute of authority:—And if that authority, which was deficient in itſelf, had been divided into two or three branches, or into two or three and twenty, it never could have mended the matter. A body without ſtrength would be weak with an hundred hands. If the expences of government are too great, it is in the power of the Legiſlature to leſſen them, and there is no neceſſity for calling a Convention for this purpoſe; nor can we conceive it to be a ſufficient reaſon for tearing the government in pieces, and riſking more important evils.

V. For that we are firmly perſuaded the government and conſtitution of *Pennſylvania* has diſcovered as few faults upon tryal as any on the continent. A number of people have watched from the beginning, for every opportunity to decry it, and every miſchief which they could poſſibly diſcover or occaſion has been too often aſcribed to the ſyſtem. Under the preſent conſtitution, *Pennſylvania* has preſerved her credit, and paid the intereſt of her debts, with more punctuality, and to a greater amount, than any other ſtate in the union; and has ſince the peace been able to ſink a very conſiderable part of the aggregate debt accumulated by her in the courſe of the late war; beſides all this, *Pennſylvania* is one of the foremoſt ſtates in complying with the demands of the United States; ſhe has paid her quotas of the requiſitions of Congreſs fully to the year 1786, and hath advanced to the United States to the value of ſeveral millions of dollars in ſpecie during the late war. A defect has undoubtedly exiſted in the fœderal plan of union; the conſtitutions of the ſtates have been much leſs defective. Ours we believe to be one of the beſt. It may have defects, and thoſe defects may be remedied in a conſtitutional way. But if we begin to tear up foundations, we are perſuaded a much more dangerous ſyſtem will be eſtabliſhed in its ſtead.

Thomas Kennedy,
James Alliſon,
John Ludwig,
James Johnſon,
Jacob Miley,
James M'Lene,
Jonathan Hoge,
David Mitchell,
William Todd,
James Marſhall,
Thomas Beale,
John Gilchreeſt,
Theophilus Philips,
John Piper,
Adam Orth,
James Barr.

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MINUTES
OF THE THIRTEENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,
IN THEIR
THIRD SESSION,

WHICH commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday*, the Eighteenth Day of *Auguſt*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine.

Tueſday, *Auguſt* 18, 1789. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *Auguſt* 19, 1789. P. M.

A number of members met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Thurſday, *Auguſt* 20, 1789. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *Auguſt* 21, 1789. A. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *Auguſt* 22, 1789. A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

A letter from the Honorable *William Maclay* and *Robert Morris*, Eſquires, Senators repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, incloſing the acts of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and the Journals of the firſt ſeſſion of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the ſaid United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *Auguſt* 24, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

His Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, adminiſtered the oath to Mr. Speaker, as preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June*, 1789, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers both of the United and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

The following members then took and ſubſcribed the like oath or affirmation, *viz.*

Jacob Hiltzheimer,
Lawrence Sickle,
William Lewis,
William M'Pherſon,
John Salter,
George Logan,
William Robinſon, jun.
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Valentine Opp,
Samuel Foulke,
James Moore,
Mark Wilcox,
John M'Dowell,
Caleb James,
Richard Downing, jun.
James Clemſon,
Jacob Erb,

Henry Dering,
Thomas Clingan,
Henry Tyſon,
Joſeph Read,
David Mitchell,
Thomas Kennedy,
Thomas Beale,
Jonathan Hoge,
Joſeph Sands,
Daniel Brodhead,
John Ludwig,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Ealer,
Conrad Ihrie, jun.
Jacob Saylor,
John Piper,
Samuel Maclay,
John White,
James Barr,
William Todd,
James Alliſon,
John Nevil,
Alexander Wright,
John Gilchreeſt,
James M‘Lene,
James Johnſton,
Robert Lollar,
Jacob Reiff,
Jonathan Roberts,
Jacob Miley,
Obadiah Gore.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Brodhead* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to inſpect the minutes of the Houſe, and report ſuch unfiniſhed buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary.

A memorial and petition from *David Meade,* on the ſubject of certain lands occupied by him, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers owners of land in the county of *Luzerne* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled “ *An Act for erecting the northern* “ *part of the county of* Northumberland *into a ſeparate county,*” and the act, entituled “ *An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* “ Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Lu-“ zerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” whereby they have been diſſeiſed of their property, and praying this Houſe to repeal the ſame, or that ſuch compenſation may be paid them therefor as ſhall be agreed upon by them and any Commiſſioners to be appointed on the part of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from *John Vancampen,* agent for the citizens of this ſtate reſiding in the county of *Northampton,* owners of land in the county of *Luzerne,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled “ *An* “ *Act for erecting the northern part of the county of* Northumberland *into a* “ *ſeparate county,*” and the act, entituled “ *An Act for aſcertaining and con-* “ *firming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them* “ *claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mention-* “ *ed,*” and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Heidelberg, Tulpehoccon* and *Bethel* townſhips, in the county of *Berks,* was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at *Middletown,* in the county of *Berks* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers owners of *Richmond Precinct* meadows, in the *Northern-Liberties,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to incorporate the owners of ſaid meadow land, and to enable them to provide ways and means for making and repairing their banks, in proportion to the quantity of meadow land by them reſpectively held.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the bakers of the city of *Philadelphia* and the vicinity thereof, was read, praying they may be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported, their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council have buſineſs which they will lay before the Houſe to-morrow.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore* have leave of abſence for two days.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, Auguſt 25, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Regiſter-General was read, tranſmitting a ſtatement of occurrences in his office, ſince the 28th of *March* to the 17th of *Auguſt* incluſive, and ſuggeſting the propriety of preſcribing certain regulations for conducting buſineſs in the offices of the State Treaſurer, Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General, reſpectively.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Jacob Bright, Collinſon Read, Jacob Hubley* and *John Chriſt,* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds in and for the county of *Berks.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Robert Roſs, Philip Lauer* and *Thomas Pilkington,* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Pettigrew,* late a collector of exciſe in the county of *Northampton,* and now an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the ſaid county for arrearages due to this commonwealth, was read, praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Mary Pine* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband, *Robert Edge Pine,* removed from *Great-Britain* to the city of *Philadelphia,* with a view of repreſenting in ſeveral large paintings the principal events of the late *American* war, and brought with him a very large and valuable collection of original hiſtorical paintings, drawings, engravings and deſigns; that whilſt he was proſecuting the great object he had in view, he died, without having wholly diſcharged the debts incurred in erecting a building for the reception thereof; that in order to diſcharge thoſe claims againſt the eſtate it will be neceſſary to diſpoſe of the aforeſaid building as well as the paintings, drawings, engravings and deſigns; that not having any proſpect of diſpoſing of ſo valuable a collection at private ſale, ſhe prays leave to bring in a bill authoriſing the diſpoſal thereof by way of lottery.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Warrington, Manahan, Huntington* and *Reading* townſhips, in *York* county, was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at the houſe of *William Butt*, in *Warrington* townſhip aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Ebenezer Cowell* was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of appointing an Inſpector of pot and pearl-aſhes intended for exportation from the port of *Philadelphia*, and praying he may be appointed to that office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nathaniel Aſpinwall* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath, at a conſiderable expence, eſtabliſhed a large nurſery of mulberry-trees for the purpoſe of promoting the culture of ſilk in this ſtate; and praying the aid of this Houſe in the further proſecution of his deſign.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Roads*, of *Penn*'s townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, was read, ſetting forth, that he mortgaged his land (previous to the firſt *Indian* war) to the Truſtees of the loan-office, for the payment of *fifty pounds* by them loaned, and ſtating the many loſſes he hath ſuſtained by the depredations of the ſavages, and his preſent infirm and diſtreſſed ſituation, therefore praying he may be exonerated from the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the firſt rate branch Pilots, plying in the bay and river *Delaware*, was read, praying to be incorporated, and that certain ſections of an act, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port* "*of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," may be reviſed and amended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the bakers of the city of *Philadelphia* and the vicinity thereof, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers owners of *Richmond Precinct* meadows, in the *Northern-Liberties*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Pherſon*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds in and for the county *Berks*, and that it be the order for that day.

A tranſcript of the aſſeſſment of the taxable perſons and property within the county of *Fayette*, for the year 1789, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday to examine the Minutes of the Houſe, and bring forward ſuch unfiniſhed buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary, made report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz*.

The committee appointed to bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs, report in part——

That there are upon the files of the Houſe the following bills,

An Act for incorporating the German *Lutheran Congregation, worſhipping at the church called* Zion, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

An Act for incorporating the German *Lutheran Congregation, worſhipping at the church called St*. Peter'*s*, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

An

An Act for aſcertaining the fineneſs of gold and ſilver, and preventing frauds and abuſes in manufactures made thereof.

An Act to alter the times of holding the Courts of General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace and Gaol Delivery, in the ſeveral counties within this commonwealth.

An Act to erect Wyoming *townſhip, and that part of* Catawiſſey *and* Mahoning *townſhips herein after deſcribed, into a ſeparate election diſtrict.*

An Act for ſeparating Newberry *townſhip, in the county of* York, *from the fifth, and annexing the ſame to the firſt election diſtrict, in that county.*

An Act to divide the county of Fayette *into election diſtricts.*

An Act to authorize George Frey, *of* Middletown, *in the county of* Dauphin, *to ſupport a mill-dam acroſs* Sweetara *creek, and to oblige him to maintain a lock and free navigation, for boats and other craft, along his mill-race into his mill-dam.*

An Act for erecting part of Cumberland *county into a ſeparate county.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Secretary of Council attending at the door, was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE herewith tranſmit letters from his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, of the eighth of *June*, ninth, twenty-third and thirtieth of *July*, and of the fourth, tenth and eleventh of *Auguſt*, 1789, with their encloſures, *viz.*

1ſt. *An Act to regulate the time and manner of adminiſtering certain oaths,*—paſſed the firſt of *June*.

2d. *An Act for laying a duty on certain goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into the United States,*—paſſed the fourth of *July*.

3d. *An Act impoſing duties on tonnage,*—paſſed the twentieth of *July*.

4th. *An Act for eſtabliſhing an executive department, to be denominated the Department of Foreign Affairs,*—paſſed the twenty-ſeventh of *July*.

5th. *An Act to regulate the collection of the duties impoſed by law on the tonnage of ſhips or veſſels, and on goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into the United States,*—paſſed the thirty-firſt day of *July*.

6th. *An Act for ſettling the accounts between the United States and individual States,*—paſſed the fifth of *Auguſt*.

7th. *An Act to provide for the government of the territory northweſt of the river* Ohio,—paſſed the ſeventh of *Auguſt*.

8th. *An Act for the eſtabliſhing and ſupport of light-houſes, beacons, buoys and public piers,*—paſſed the ſeventh of *Auguſt*,—and

9th. *An Act to eſtabliſh an executive department, to be denominated the Department of War,*—paſſed the ſeventh of *Auguſt*.

We likewiſe tranſmit a letter from his Excellency Governor *Clinton*, of the fifth of *May* laſt, with a reſolution of the Senate and Aſſembly of *New-York*, of the fifth of *February*, on the ſubject of amendments to the conſtitution of the United States.

The purchaſe of the *Lake Erie* tract of country from the *Indians* hath neceſſarily exceeded the eſtimate of Council, and the ſums appropriated by act of Aſſembly. That exceſs hath ariſen principally from the length of time the Commiſſioners were obliged to wait for the *Indians*: We recommend to the General Aſſembly to provide by law for the payment of the money which remains due on that purchaſe, and for the expence of *one hundred and thirteen pounds and ſix-pence,* incurred by Council in receiving his Excellency the Preſident of the United States in this city, on the ſeventeenth day of *April* laſt.

The accounts of the purchaſe of the *Lake Erie* tract, and of the expence of receiving his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, accompany this meſſage. Council have not had it in their power to procure a lot proper for a powder magazine out of the city limits, as the reſolve of Aſſembly directs. Several city lots, near the river *Schuylkill,* and ſufficiently remote from the buildings of the town, may be purchaſed at reaſonable prices.

The principal part of the money intended to have been raiſed by lottery, and directed by act of Aſſembly to be applied to the repairing of that part of the *Lancaſter* road, called *Jones*'s lane, and towards improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill,* hath been reported to Council by the Managers to be outſtanding. By the act of the fifteenth day of *March,* 1784, the Managers were inſtructed to lay before the Comptroller-General, from time to time, when thereto required, a true ſtate of that lottery, and when the drawing of the ſame ſhall be completed and the prizes and incidental charges paid, to render their accounts to the committee of accounts of Aſſembly, for final ſettlement. A general ſtatement of the lottery, and of the money which remains to be collected, is ſent herewith.

Annuities to the widows and children of deceaſed officers of the army, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy, have been heretofore paid by virtue of the act of Aſſembly, dated the firſt day of *March,* 1780, out of any monies in the hands of County Treaſurers, upon orders iſſued by the Orphans Courts of the reſpective counties; but all public monies being, by ſubſequent acts, appropriated to other purpoſes, there remains no proviſion for the payment of thoſe annuities, which amount to *eighteen hundred and fifty pounds.*

The expences of repairing the banks of *Mud-Iſland* ſince the firſt day of *March* laſt, according to the Comptroller General's report to Council, hath been *four hundred and fifty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings and one-penny.*

The exportation of Pot-aſhes from the Port of *Philadelphia,* merits the attention of the General Aſſembly; we are of opinion that pot and pearl aſhes ſhould be made ſubject by law to inſpection.

The act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands, promiſed to the troops of this Commonwealth,*" will expire on the thirteenth day of *September* next.

We lay before the General Aſſembly, a copy of the inſtructions of Council to the Comptroller General, relative to the exchange of certificates.

A repreſentation from the Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia,* and a letter from *John Dunlap,* the purchaſer of certain public lots in *Southwark,* whoſe caſe we recommend to the Legiſlature.

Auguſt 25, 1789. THOMAS MIFFLIN.

And the papers tranſmitted therewith were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, that the ſame be referred to Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *Auguſt* 26, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Joſeph Heiſter, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Berks*, appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral ſtates, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

The Clerk and Aſſiſtant-Clerk then took and ſubſcribed the like oath or affirmation.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, Auguſt 26th*, 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting to you, to be laid before the General Aſſembly, a letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, of *Auguſt* the twenty-fourth, with an act of the Congreſs of the United States, paſſed *Auguſt* the twentieth, 1789, entituled "*An Act providing* "*for the expences which may attend negociations with the* Indian *tribes, and* "*the appointment of Commiſſioners for managing the ſame.*"

I have the honor to be, with great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 140 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Earl*, *Amity*, *Union*, *Colebrookdale* and *Douglaſs*, in the county of *Berks*, was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at *George Douglas*'s tavern, in *Amity* townſhip aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 305 inhabitants of *Maxatawny*, *Albany*, *Greenwich*, *Longſwamp*, *Hereford*, *Diſtrict*, *Rockland* and *Richmond* townſhips, in the county of *Berks*, were read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at *Kutztown*, in the townſhip of *Maxatawny* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 354 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Windſor*, *Brunſwick*, *Bern*, *Albany* and *Greenwich*, in *Berks* county, were read, praying they may be enabled by law to hold their general elections at the School-houſe in the town of *Hamburgh*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 165 inhabitants of *Tulpehoccon*, *Bethel* and *Pinegrove* townſhips, in the county of *Berks*, were read, praying they may by law be enabled to hold their general elections at *Godfrey Rohrer*'s tavern.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 118 inhabitants of *Manahan*, *Warrington*, *Huntington* and *Reading* townſhips, in the county of *York*, was read, praying they may be by law enabled to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Thomas M'Creary*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *York* county, to report thereon.

A petition from *Francis White*, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, by warrant under the hands and ſeals of the Commiſſioners of Bankruptcy, was read, praying he may be releaſed from further impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Clendenin*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Regiſter-General, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Johnſton*, to report thereon.

The memorial and petition from divers officers in the late American Military Hoſpital, read *March* 19th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Pettigrew*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Ihrie* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Warrington*, *Manahan*, *Huntington* and *Reading* townſhips, in *York* county, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *York*, to report thereon.

The petition of the firſt rate branch Pilots, plying in the bay and river *Delaware*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

Ordered, That ſo much of the ſaid petition as reſpects a reviſion and amendment of certain parts of the act, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a* "*Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned*," be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday to arrange and report on the meſſage from Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

That they conſider the ſeveral letters from the Preſident of the United States, with their encloſures, as matters of information.

The letter from Governor *Clinton,* with a reſolve of the Legiſlature of *New-York,* on the ſubject of amendments to the conſtitution of the United States, to be matter of information.

That the part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the extraordinary expences attending the purchaſe of the tract of country on *Lake Erie,* be referred to the committee on ways and means.

That the account of the expences of receiving his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, be referred to a committee.

The part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the purchaſe of a lot of ground whereon to erect a powder magazine, we conſider as matter of information.

That ſo much of the meſſage of Council, as reſpects the ſtate lottery, be referred to a committee, and that they be inſtructed to confer with Council thereon.

That part of the meſſage, relative to annuities to widows and children of deceaſed officers, *&c.* be referred to a committee, with inſtructions to confer with Council thereon.

That the part of the meſſage, reſpecting the repairs to the banks of *Mud-Iſland,* be referred to a committee, and that they be inſtructed to confer with Council thereon.

That that part of the meſſage of Council, which recommends the inſpection of pot and pearl-aſhes intended for exportation, be referred to a committee.

That part of the meſſage, reſpecting the donation lands and the inſtructions of Council to the Comptroller-General, relative to the exchange of certificates, your committee conſider as matters of information.

That the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia,* tranſmitted with the meſſage, be referred to a committee.

That the letter from *John Dunlap,* a purchaſer of certain lots mentioned in his application to Council, and the papers accompanying it, be referred to a committee.

Whereupon, *Ordered,* That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the extraordinary expences attending the purchaſe of the tract of country on *Lake Erie,* be referred to the committee on ways and means, and that Mr. *Hiltzheimer* be added to the ſaid committee, in the room of Mr. *Fitzſimons.*

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *Brodhead* and Mr. *Johnſton,* be a committee, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the expences of receiving his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Roberts,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the ſtate lottery, and that they be inſtructed to confer with Council, and report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Johnſton,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects annuities to widows and children of deceaſed officers, *&c.* with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sickle*, Mr. *Wilcox* and Mr. *Todd*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the repairs of the banks of *Mud-Iſland*, and that they be inſtructed to confer with Council, and report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage of Council which recommends the inſpection of pot and pearl-aſhes intended for exportation, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia* be a committee, on the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens, tranſmitted with the meſſage of Council, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hoge*, be a committee on the letter from *John Dunlap*, a purchaſer of certain lots mentioned in his application to Council, together with the papers accompanying the ſame, and to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Pherſon*,

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council which relates to the purchaſe of a lot for the purpoſe of erecting a powder magazine, be referred to a committee, with inſtructions to confer with Council thereon.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *Auguſt* 27, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John Irwin, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, and *Adam Orth*, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Dauphin*, appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath and affirmation preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

A petition from *Miles Merwin* was read, ſetting forth, that he has arranged all the acts of Aſſembly, or ſuch parts of them as are now in force within this commonwealth, in alphabetical order; and praying the countenance and ſanction of this Houſe in permitting and authoriſing the publication of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation and petition from divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, was read, praying the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, *in* York *county*," may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Philip Albright*, *Philip I. King* and *Solomon Miller*, owners of mills on *Codorus* creek, below the forks thereof, in the county of *York*, was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Francis White*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Irwin*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Roſs,* read *Auguſt* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Bartholomew Van-Heer,* read *March* 21ſt laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *McPherſon,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Wright,* to report thereon.

The petitions, praying for election diſtricts within the county of *Berks,* read yeſterday, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the members from *Berks* county, to report thereon.

The petition of Dr. *Thomas Bond,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *March* 22d, 1788, was preſented to the chair, read, and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Johnſton,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Nathaniel Aſpinwall,* read *March* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Brodhead* and Mr. *Alliſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Houſton,* read *February* 19th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Johnſton,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Rhodes,* read *Auguſt* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Read* and Mr. *Barr,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Clendenin,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

The petitions of *Thomas Pilkington* and *Philip Lauer,* read *Auguſt* 25th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Brodhead,* Mr. *Tyſon* and Mr. *Miley,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Robinſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Ibrie,*

Ordered, That the committee to whom was re-committed, *March* 23d laſt, that part of the report on the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs,* ſo far as the ſame reſpects the caſe of ſaid *Roſs,* be diſcharged.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Melchior Steiner,* for the ſum of *twenty-ſix pounds fourteen ſhillings and four-pence half penny,* in full of his account for printing the bills for public conſideration in the *German* language.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *James Pettigrew,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, on the petition of *James Pettigrew,* late Collector of the exciſe in the county of *Northampton,* beg leave to report the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authorize and require the county court of common pleas of the county of *Northampton,* upon the petition of *James Pettigrew,* to grant him relief, with equal and like effect, and upon the like terms and conditions, as to the impriſonment of his perſon, as is by the laws of this ſtate afforded to inſolvent debtors in caſes of debts by them owing to private perſons. *Provided,* That the diſcharge of the ſaid *James Pettigrew* ſhall not extend to exonerate, annul or leſſen the force and effect of any ſecurity or engagement entered into by any perſon for ſecuring the payment of the monies collected by him, or for his good behaviour in the duties of his office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Berks,* and the ballots being taken, the votes for the ſeveral candidates were as follow, *to wit.*

For *Collinſon Read,*	23 votes.
John Chriſt,	20
Jacob Hubley,	9

And there not being a majority of the members preſent in favor of either of the candidates, the Houſe proceeded to a ſecond election by ballot, which was as follows, *viz.*

John Chriſt,	26
Collinſon Read,	25
Jacob Hubley,	1

Whereupon, neither of the candidates having a majority of votes in his favor,

It was moved by Mr. *Robinſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

To poſtpone the order of the day until *Saturday* next.

Which was carried in the negative.

The order of the day then recurring, the Houſe proceeded in the ſaid election, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *John Chriſt,* Eſquire, was duly elected.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter the times of holding the Courts of " General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace, and Gaol Delivery, in the ſeveral " counties within this commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, Auguſt 28, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Richard Thomas, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter,* and *Peter Richards,* Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Montgomery,* appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath and affirmation preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Derby* and *Haverford*, in the county of *Cheſter*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Cheſter "*county*," and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Perkins*, *Abraham Morrow* and *John Nicholſon*, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of *Joſeph Perkins* and *Abraham Morrow*, read *March* 25th laſt, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Wheatfield* and part of *Fairfield* townſhips, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read, praying they may be authorized to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Henry Hiſe*, on *Conemaugh* river.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the firſt election diſtrict of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, praying the place for holding their general elections may be fixed in a more central and convenient place.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Verſailles* and *Plumb* townſhips, in the county of *Allegheny*, was read, praying they may be authorized to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Matthew Simpſon*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The repreſentation and petition of divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Downing*, Mr. *Clemſon*, Mr. *Tyſon*, Mr. *J. Heiſter* and Mr. *Ludwig*, to report thereon.

The memorial of *Philip Albright*, *Philip I. King* and *Solomon Miller*, owners of mills on *Codorus* creek, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee.

The petition of *Miles Merwin*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *February* 7th, on that part of the meſſage which reſpects a reviſion and arrangement of the acts of General Aſſembly, *&c.* and that Mr. *Lollar* be added to the ſaid committee, in the room of Mr. *Clymer*.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Manahan*, *Warrington*, *Huntington* and *Reading* townſhips, in the county of *York*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom were referred the petitions of ſundry inhabitants, freemen of the fifth election diſtrict of *York* county, praying to be enabled by law to hold their general elections in future at the houſe of *William Butt*, in *Warrington* townſhip, in ſaid diſtrict, ſubmit the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to enable the freemen of *Manahan*, *Warrington*, *Huntington* and *Reading* townſhips, compoſing the fifth election diſtrict in *York* county, to hold their general elections in future at the houſe of *William Butt*, in *Warrington* townſhip aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday on the petition of *John Houſton* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *John Houſton*, having taken the matters therein contained into conſideration, are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioner is juſt and reaſonable; therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *pounds*, in favor of *John Houſton*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, read *March* 24th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

On motion,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the ſociety for the relief of diſtreſſed and decayed* "*pilots, their widows and children*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled, "*An* "*Act for the better regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Berks *county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *James Pettigrew*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authorize the county court of common pleas of *Northampton*, upon the petition of *James Pettigrew*, to grant him relief with equal and like effect, and upon the like terms and conditions as to the impriſonment of his perſon, as is by the laws of this ſtate afforded to inſolvent debtors, in caſes of debts by them owing to private perſons. *Provided*, that the diſcharge of the ſaid *James Pettigrew* ſhall not extend to exonerate, annul or leſſen the force and effect of any ſecurity or engagement entered into by any perſon for ſecuring the payment of the monies collected by him, or for his good behaviour in the duties of his office.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Ihrie* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a cer-* "*tain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the county* "*of* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Piper*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate* "*county*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon* be added to the committee appointed *March* 16th laſt, on the petition of divers merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia*.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, Auguſt 29, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Michael Schmyſer, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

Purſuant to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the precinct of* Richmond, *in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties, Philadelphia *county, to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expences thereof,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the ſtate lottery, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the ſtate lottery, inſtructed to confer with Council and report thereon, have had a conference with Council on that ſubject, and join with them in opinion, that the laws now in being are not fully ſufficient for the purpoſes of enforcing the due collection and payment of the monies raiſed by ſaid lottery: Your committee therefore beg leave to report the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of enforcing the collection of the monies raiſed by way of lottery by virtue of an act, entituled "*An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Forty Thouſand Dollars, for improving the public road leading from the city of* Philadelphia *to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards the improving the navigation of the river* Schuylkill," and the ſupplement thereto, by the managers of ſaid lottery, and paying the ſame into the public treaſury, for the purpoſes mentioned in the ſaid acts of Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*, in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal all the acts of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth appointing or eſtabliſhing any election diſtricts within any county of the ſaid commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*, *March* 19th laſt, relative to the appropriation of a part of the donation lands for the improvement of the public roads.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the ſociety formed for the relief of diſtreſſed and decayed pilots, their widows and children,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, Auguſt 31, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Clendinen,* an inſolvent debtor confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying a committee may be appointed to report on his ſingular and diſtreſſed ſituation, in order that he may be relieved from further impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Brodhead,* Mr. *Tyſon* and Mr. *Miley,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Lewis Prahl,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 10th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from *William Lyon,* Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county of *Cumberland,* was read, ſetting forth, that on the night of the firſt day of *April* laſt his houſe and office were conſumed by fire; that in ſaving the public records his own property was deſtroyed; therefore praying he may by law be exempted from the payment of the tax aſſeſſed on all writs iſſuing out of his office, for ſuch time as this Houſe may deem proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, ſtating the miſconduct and unjuſtifiable proceedings of *Thomas Stokely,* Eſquire, in his office as Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds for the county of *Waſhington,* and praying he may be removed from his ſaid office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Butler,* late a Captain in the line of this ſtate in the armies of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of a certificate received from the Comptroller-General for the ſum of *eighty-ſeven pounds fifteen ſhillings,* in conſideration of another loaned to the ſtate for the ſame ſum, and praying this Houſe to order a new certificate to be iſſued in lieu of the one he hath been robbed of, or grant him ſuch other relief in the premiſes as this Houſe may think proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Rumſey,* by his attorney *Joſeph Barnes,* was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1785, and at different periods ſince, he has invented divers uſeful machines, engines and devices, in the art of navigation, and the hydraulic, hydroſtatic and mechanic arts, for the purpoſe of promoting the agriculture, commerce and manufactures of *America,* and praying leave to bring in a bill to ſecure to him the ſole and excluſive privilege of making, conſtructing, uſing, and vending to others the ſeveral engines, machines and devices by him invented, for a term of years.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers owners of land in the county of *Luzerne,* read *Auguſt* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with all petitions of a ſimilar tenor on the files of the Houſe, be referred to Mr. *Sickle,* Mr. *Saltar,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Beale,* Mr. *J. Heiſter,* Mr. *Balliott,* Mr. *Saylor,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Wright,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *Reiff,* Mr. *Orth* and Mr. *Gore,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 4th laſt, on the ſubject of the conteſted claims to lands within the county of *Luzerne,* be diſcharged.

The report on the petition of *John Houſton,* read *Auguſt* 28th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of   in favor of *John Houſton.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolutions.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* James Pettigrew, *an inſolvent Collector of Exciſe with-* "*in the county of* Northampton, *confined in the gaol of ſaid county,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain* "*tract of meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the precinct of* Richmond, "*in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties, Philadelphia *county, to keep the* "*banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray* "*the expences thereof,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 1, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Cheſter* county, ſigned by 665 of the inhabitants thereof, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for the better* "*regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Cheſter *county,*" and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 918 freemen of the county of *Bucks,* 508 of the county of *Cheſter,* 250 of the county of *Lancaſter,* 943 of the county of *York,* 1007 of the county of *Northampton,* 205 of the county of *Montgomery,* 108 of the county of *Luzerne,* and 287 of the county of *Huntingdon,* inhabitants thereof, were ſeverally read, praying that a recommendation be iſſued for electing members of a Convention on the enſuing ſecond *Tueſday* of *October,* for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, and that the ſame equal principles which regulate the repreſentation of the people in the General Aſſembly may be applied to the election of members of the Convention.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Reading* townſhip, in *York* county, was read, praying they may be annexed to the firſt election diſtrict of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Lewis Prahl*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of *William Lyon*, Eſq; read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Kennedy*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Butler*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

The petition of 1356 of the inhabitants of the weſtern part of the county of *York*, read *March* 20th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Kennedy*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the expences of receiving his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the eſtimate of the expence of receiving the Preſident of the United States was referred, report——

That they find an expence of *one hundred and thirteen pounds and ſix-pence* was incurred for ordnance ſtores and fire-works on that occaſion: They therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the above amount.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the annuities to widows and children of deceaſed officers, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the eſtimate of penſions to widows and children of deceaſed officers of the army, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy, report——

That as it appeared to be the ſenſe of the Houſe, by the adoption of that part of the report of the committee on ways and means offered laſt ſeſſion, which recommends a continuation of penſions to widows and children of deceaſed officers ſome time longer, to which they were actuated by a conſideration of the diſtreſs the penſioners would be ſubject to until Congreſs ſhould make proviſion, and having conferred with the Supreme Executive Council, as directed by the Houſe, on the ſubject, and finding no unappropriated funds on which Council are empowered to draw, beg leave to offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to iſſue orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favor of ſuch perſons as were entitled by law to receive penſions, to be paid out of the *ten thouſand pounds* ſet aſide annually, as by law enacted the 26th of *March*, 1789, for the purpoſes of ſatisfying claims not already provided for, improvement of roads, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th, on the petition of *John Rhoads*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *John Rhoads* report——

Your committee, having examined into and conſidered the ſubject of the ſaid petition, are of opinion that it would not be expedient at this time for the Legiſlature to grant the prayer thereof: Therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That *John Rhoads* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entitnled " *An* " *Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Trea-* " *ſurer of this ſtate, for the ſum of* eighty-eight pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor* " *of* John Houſton," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of* James Pettigrew, *an inſol-* " *vent Collector of Exciſe within the county of* Northampton, *confined in the* " *gaol of ſaid county*," was read the ſecond time, and in part conſidered.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſeparating* Newberry *townſhip, in the coun-* " *ty of* York, *from the fifth, and annexing the ſame to the firſt election diſtrict* " *of that county*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The motion made *Auguſt* 29th by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Brodhead* be added to the committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the repairs of the banks of *Mud-Iſland.*

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Beale*,

Ordered, That the order of this day be poſtponed until *Friday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 2, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 180 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, and of the Grand Jury and 601 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read yeſterday reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia* was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of certain amendments to the act, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia," and praying that ſuch parts thereof may be reviſed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

A petition from *James Rowan,* late a Collector of taxes for the diſtrict of *Southwark,* and now confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment, for the expreſs purpoſe of ſtating and adjuſting his accounts with the public, under ſuch reſtrictions as this Houſe may deem proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate was read, referring to their petition, read *February* 14th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and a further ſuſpenſion of the ſale of ſuch land for taxes may take place, until a new and better mode of aſſeſſment and collection may be deviſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 2, 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of encloſing to you, for the information of the General Aſſembly, a reſolution of Congreſs, for carrying into effect a ſurvey directed to be made by an act of the late Congreſs, which reſolution hath been this day received by Council.

I have the honor to be, with the greateſt reſpect,

SIR,

Your obedient and humble ſervant,

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

The Hon. RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire.*

And the encloſure was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the letter with its encloſure were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

A tranſcript of the accounts of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, for the year preceding, was preſented to the chair: Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Hoge,* be appointed Viſitors, to inſpect the books, accounts, affairs and œconomy of the ſaid Managers, and report thereon.

The committee on ways and means made report, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council which reſpects the negociating the purchaſe of the *Lake Erie* tract of country from the *Indians,* having attended to that buſineſs, do find that the ſum of money appropriated for that purpoſe by act of Aſſembly falls *eight hundred and ſixty-five pounds fifteen ſhillings and four-pence* ſhort of perfecting the ſaid purchaſe, and the neceſſary expences attending the ſame; therefore your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer for the ſum of *eight hundred and ſixty-five pounds fifteen ſhillings and four-pence,* in full of the above deficiency; to be paid out of the *ten thouſand pounds* appropriated by act of Aſſembly of the twenty-ſixth of *March,* 1789, for claims and improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th, on the ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* beg leave to report the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for dividing the ſaid county of *Berks* into election diſtricts, agreeably to the prayer of ſaid petitioners.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the relief of* James Pettigrew, *an inſolvent Collector of Exciſe within the* "*county of* Northampton, *confined in the gaol of ſaid county,*" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to erect* Wyoming *townſhip, and that part* "*of* Catawiſſey *and* Mahoning *townſhips herein after deſcribed, in the county of* "Northumberland, *into a ſeparate election diſtrict,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Luzerne *into election* "*diſtricts,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran* "*congregation worſhipping at the church called St.* Peter*'s, in* Pikeland *town-* "*ſhip, in the county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran* "*congregation worſhipping at the church called* Zion, *in* Pikeland *townſhip,* "*in the county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 3, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 181 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* 372 inhabitants of the county of *York,* 104 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* and 309 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read yeſterday, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* were read, praying a law may be paſſed, to aboliſh the exciſe upon ſpirituous liquors within this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *September* 3, 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting to you, to be laid before the General Aſſembly, the petition of *Daniel Leet*, in behalf of himſelf and other Surveyors of the depreciation lands, for compenſation for their ſervices; together with a report of a committee of Council on that ſubject.

With the greateſt reſpect, I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your obedient and humble ſervant,

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

The Hon. RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire.*

And the papers encloſed were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare an addreſs to the Preſident of the United States, expreſſive of the high ſenſe entertained by this Houſe of his diſtinguiſhed merit, and congratulating him on his appointment to his preſent exalted ſtation, at the head of a government founded on the authority of the people, and calculated to ſecure them in the enjoyment of their lives, liberties and property.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to prepare an addreſs agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of lowering the price of the unappropriated land in the late purchaſe, and fixing the price thereof at *pounds* per hundred acres, to be paid as is directed by the preſent laws; and alſo to exempt from taxes all the lands that have been or ſhall be purchaſed of the ſaid unappropriated lands within the term of years from and after the opening of the office for the ſale of ſaid lands; and to exempt from taxes, for and during the term of years, in addition to the aforeſaid term of years, every tract of four hundred acres, on which an actual ſettlement or improvement ſhall be made within the term of years firſt above mentioned, provided the ſame ſettlement be purſued and continued.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read *Auguſt* 31ſt laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Johnſon*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Samuel Briggs*, read *March* 25th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Opp* and Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers owners of land in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Johnſton*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the annuities to widows and children of deceaſed officers, read *September* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report of the committee on the ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of the county of *Berks*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for dividing the county of *Berks* into election diſtricts, agreeably to the prayer of the petitions of the inhabitants of that county.

Ordered, That the members from *Berks* county be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant and ſecure to* Robert Leſlie, *for a* "*limited time, the ſole and excluſive right and benefit of conſtructing, making* "*and ſelling, within this commonwealth, the improvements by him lately in*"*vented on clocks and watches*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Moore*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer* and Mr. *Logan* be added to the committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th, on the petition of *Nathaniel Aſpinwall*.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 4, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Hugh Daviſon, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Huntingdon*, appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

Petitions from 1450 of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Potter's* and *Upper Bald-Eagle*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying, that ſhould the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland "*county into a ſeparate county,*" be paſſed into a law, and the ſeat of juſtice fixed at *Old-Town*, they may be annexed to the county thereby erected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 150 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read yeſterday, reſpecting the exciſe on ſpirituous liquors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *Frederick A. Muhlenberg*, Eſquire, was read, containing his reſignation of the offices of Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Montgomery*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was read, as follows, *viz.*

September 3*d*, 1789.

SIR,

I BEG leave to inform the Honorable Houſe of Aſſembly, that I have prepared about *fifteen thouſand pounds* (including loan-office money) of the bills of credit iſſued by act of *March* 16th, 1785, and punched it for burning. If the Houſe ſhall think proper to direct their committee to proceed on that ſervice, the whole ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds*, directed by law to be annually deſtroyed, may, it is probable, be prepared by the time the committee can go through with it. I have likewiſe about *twenty-two thouſand pounds* of the bills iſſued by act of *April* 7th, 1781, and a ſmall ſum in treaſury notes and iſland money, to be deſtroyed.

I am, SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
DAVID RITTENHOUSE, *Treaſurer.*

Hon. RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire.*

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be directed to count, burn and deſtroy the ſeveral ſums of money in the ſaid letter enumerated.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported an Addreſs to the Preſident of the United States, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to divide the county of* Berks *into election diſtricts,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Lewis*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for dividing the* "*county of* Cheſter, *and to erect the lower or eaſternmoſt part thereof into a* "*ſeparate county,*" and having obtained leave of the Houſe for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when the ſame was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Perkins*, *Abraham Morrow* and *John Nicholſon*, read *Auguſt* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Gore*, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Rowan*, late a Collector of Taxes in the diſtrict of *Southwark*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Sickle*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Johnſon*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the ſtate lottery, read *Auguſt* 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of enforcing the collection of the monies raiſed by way of lottery by virtue of an act, entituled "*An Act for raiſing, by way* "*of lottery, the ſum of Forty Thouſand Dollars, for improving the public road* "*leading from the city of* Philadelphia *to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and* "*towards the improving the navigation of the river* Schuylkill," and the ſupplement thereto, by the managers of ſaid lottery, and paying the ſame into the public treaſury, for the purpoſes mentioned in the ſaid acts of Aſſembly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Roberts* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council* "*to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the ſum of* eighty-eight "pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor of* John Houſton," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Nevil*, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the ſecurity of individuals greatly depends on the due adminiſtration of juſtice, and whereas it is eſſential to the ſame that men of law knowledge, as well as of integrity, ſhould preſide in the adminiſtration thereof, and it is conceived that this great end may be effected in the more ſettled parts of this commonwealth, without an expence proportionate to the advantage reſulting therefrom: Therefore

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to provide that one fit and ſuitable perſon ſhall be appointed and commiſſioned by the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, as Preſident of the ſeveral courts of Common Pleas of the counties of *Philadelphia*, *Cheſter*, *Bucks* and *Montgomery*; and that another fit and ſuitable perſon ſhall be appointed and commiſſioned in manner aforeſaid, as Preſident of the ſeveral courts of Common Pleas of the counties of *Lancaſter*, *Berks*, *Northampton* and *Dauphin*; and to provide that a juſt and adequate compenſation be made them, from the law proceedings and profits ariſing from ſuch of the offices within the ſaid ſeveral counties, as may be deemed right and proper.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Daviſon* be added to the committee appointed *Auguſt* 29th, on the petition of divers owners of land in the county of *Luzerne*, and all other petitions of a ſimilar tenor.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That the order of this day, for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate* "*county*," be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a cer-*"*tain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the county* "*of* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and* "*defray the expence thereof*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 5, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John Carſon, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Dauphin*, appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

Petitions from 968 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, 151 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, and 578 inhabitants of the county of *Franklin*, were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 57 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Allegheny* was read, remonſtrating againſt the erecting the townſhips of *Plumb* and *Verſailles*, in ſaid county, into a ſeparate election diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Peters* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, was read, ſtating their particular ſituation with reſpect to the tax laid for the year 1782, and praying a further time may be allowed them for the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the inſpection of ſhingles*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th laſt, on the letter from *John Dunlap*, tranſmitted with the meſſage of Council, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of *John Dunlap*, and the papers accompanying the ſame, together with that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council which relates thereto, report——

That *Alexander Bartram*, late a ſubject and inhabitant of this commonwealth, being ſeized of a lot or piece of ground, ſituate on the north-eaſt corner of *Shippen* and *Third-ſtreets*, in the diſtrict of *Southwark*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, containing in breadth one hundred feet, and in depth one hundred feet, ſubject to a rent charge of eleven *Spaniſh* piſtoles *per Annum*, payable to *Luke Morris*, in fee ſimple, was duly attainted of high treaſon, and the ſaid lot thereby forfeited to this commonwealth, and was afterwards ſold by the Agents for forfeited eſtates, and duly granted and confirmed by a patent, under the great ſeal of this commonwealth, to *John Dunlap* and *George Henry*, for the price of *ſeven thouſand pounds*, by them paid for the ſame, as being ſubject only to five *Spaniſh* piſtoles *per Annum*, and no more; that the ſaid *John Dunlap* having, for a valuable conſideration by him paid, ſince purchaſed from the ſaid *George Henry* his moiety of the ſaid lot, as being ſubject only to a proportionable part of the laſt mentioned annual ſum, is juſtly entitled to have of this commonwealth the value of a rent charge for ever of ſix *Spaniſh* piſtoles, in fine gold, which your committee eſtimate at *pounds*, lawful money of *Pennſylvania:* They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be authorized and directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *John Dunlap*, for lawful money of *Pennſylvania*, to be paid out of the fund appropriated for claims and improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th laſt, on the petition of *Nathaniel Aſpinwall*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Nathaniel Aſpinwall*, ſetting forth, that he hath devoted a great part of his time in the raiſing of mulberry trees for the culture of ſilk in the ſtate of *Connecticut*, and that he has brought with him a quantity of ſeed, from which he has raiſed a very great number of plants this ſeaſon, but from the narrowneſs of his circumſtances is incapable of proceeding without the aſſiſtance and patronage of the public: Your committee, having taken the matters contained in his petition into conſideration, are fully impreſſed with a ſenſe of the great advantages that might accrue to the inhabitants of this ſtate from the raiſing of mulberry trees and cultivation of ſilk, and are of opinion that he deſerves the encouragement and patronage of this Houſe: Therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, enabling the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the ſum of *pounds*, to be given on loan to *Nathaniel Aſpinwall* for the term of years, he giving bond for the repayment of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Robinſon*, in his place, read, and, having obtained leave, preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to remedy the defects of an act, entituled* "A Supplement to an act, entituled "*An Act more effectually to prevent unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to regulate the exportation of flax-ſeed, butter and biſcuit in kegs*," when the ſame was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter and reſignation of the Honorable *Frederick A. Muhlenberg*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

On motion,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Monday* next.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of the ſame, read yeſterday and this day, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Tyſon* and Mr. *Nevil*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Berks *into election diſtricts*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Addreſs to the Preſident of the United States, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted unanimouſly, as follows, *viz.*

To the PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

The ADDRESS of the REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met.

SIR,

THE Repreſentatives of a free people cannot comply with their duty to their conſtituents more to their ſatisfaction, than by paying a juſt tribute to the merits of one, whoſe important exertions, unexampled perſeverance, and diſtinguiſhed military talents, have eminently contributed to the eſtabliſhment of their liberties. Impreſſed with the moſt lively ſenſe of your love for your country, invariably evidenced in the courſe of your paſt ſervices, and of which you have given a new proof, by ſacrificing your predilection for private life to the deſires of your fellow-citizens, and again appearing on the public ſtage, we moſt ſincerely congratulate you on your elevation to the high ſtation you now fill.

The citizens of this ſtate, having been among the firſt to adopt the ſyſtem of fœderal government on which they ſo much depend for their portion of the national proſperity, cannot but be highly gratified by the progreſs which has been made towards its compleat organization; and they have a pleaſing addition to their ſatisfaction, by your having been ſo unanimouſly placed at the head of it. We are confident that we declare the ſenſe of the people of *Pennſylvania*, when we aſſure you of the firm and conſtant ſupport of this ſtate in all meaſures, in which its aid ſhall be neceſſary, for rendering your adminiſtration eaſy to yourſelf and beneficial to our country.

We deem it a circumſtance which ſtrongly marks the good ſenſe and virtue of our countrymen, that they peaceably and deliberately concurred in a frame of general government, which, we firmly truſt, will in its operation dignify our character, entitle us to reſpect among the nations, and enſure happineſs and ſafety to us and our poſterity. With hearts expanded beyond the limits of our own country, we moſt ardently hope that the influence of this *novel*, but *bright, example* may be extended, till freedom, under governments of *laws*, not of *men*, ſhall bleſs the oppreſſed of every climate and country. The *old* will then be experimentally taught by *the new world*, that reaſon, virtue, union, moderation and patriotiſm, can, under the ſmiles of Heaven, without the ſword, accompliſh the happineſs of nations by pacific revolutions in their political ſyſtems, whenſoever they require them.

With the warmeſt wiſhes for your perſonal happineſs, we fervently beſeech the great Author and Supporter of our Exiſtence, that he will, by granting you a continuance of health, long preſerve a life ſo dear to your country, and exemplary to mankind.

Ordered, That the Speaker be directed to ſign and tranſmit the ſame to the Senators repreſenting this ſtate in the Senate of the United States, to be by them preſented.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Maclay* have leave of abſence for the remainder of this ſeſſion.

The bill, entituled " *A further Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act " to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for " repealing at a certain time all the laws heretofore made for that purpoſe," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 7, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 242 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia*, 146 of the county of *Cheſter*, 96 of the county of *Lancaſter*, 612 of the county of *York*, and 64 of the county of *Dauphin*, were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 250 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, praying no order may be taken for calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, but that the ſame may be left to the deciſion of the Council of Cenſors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 111 inhabitants of the townſhip of *Greenwood*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying the eaſtern part of ſaid townſhip may not be annexed to the county propoſed to be erected by the bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate* " *county*."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lindſay Coats* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Montgomery*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the letter from the Honorable *Frederick A. Muhlenberg*, Eſquire, poſtponed *September* 5th: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That his reſignation be accepted.

And on motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wright*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Montgomery*, and that it be the order for that day.

The petition of *James Rumſey*, by his Attorney *Joſeph Barnes*, read *Auguſt* 31ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of his petition.

The petitions from *Verſailles* and *Plumb* townſhips, in the county of *Allegheney*, for a new election diſtrict, read *Auguſt* 28th, and the petition from a number of the inhabitants of the ſaid county, read *September* 5th, againſt the meaſure, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lowry*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Nathaniel Aſpinwall*, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

Reſolved, That this Houſe will, on *Wedneſday next*, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the petitions in favor of as well as thoſe againſt the calling of a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution of this Commonwealth.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to alter the times of holding the courts of General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace and Goal Delivery in the ſeveral counties within this Commonwealth.*

An ACT *to divide the county of* Luzerne *into election diſtricts.*

An ACT *for ſeparating* Newberry *townſhip, in the county of* York, *from the fifth, and annexing the ſame to the firſt election diſtrict of that county, and to enable the freemen of* Manahan, Warrington, Huntingdon *and* Reading *townſhips, to hold their general elections at the houſe of* William Butt.

An ACT *to grant and ſecure to* Robert Leſlie, *for a limited time, the ſole and excluſive right and benefit of conſtructing, making and ſelling, within this commonwealth, the improvements by him lately invented on clocks and watches.*

An ACT *to erect* Wyoming *townſhip, and that part of* Catawiſſey *and* Mahoning *townſhips hereinafter deſcribed, in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate election diſtrict.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 8, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Ludwig*, Eſquire, was read, in excuſe for his non-attendance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *James Hockley*, *Joſeph Dean*, *Benjamin Thomas*, *James Morris* and *Jacob Auld*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed to the offices of Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Montgomery*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſhua Elder* and *John Elder*, junior, Deputy Surveyors in the late purchaſe, was read, praying a compenſation may be made them for their ſervices in the ſurvey of depreciation lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from the biſcuit bakers of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating that the exportation of ſhip ſtuff is the principal cauſe of the decreaſe of the biſcuit baking buſineſs, and praying a legal reſtraint may be laid on the exportation thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying that part of the act, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of* New-" London, *in the county of* Cheſter," may be repealed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

A petition from 52 of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *September* 5th, on petitions of a ſimilar tenor.

A letter from *Robert Lollar*, Eſquire, containing a reſignation of his ſeat in this Houſe, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 90 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia*, and 153 inhabitants of the county of *Franklin*, were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read yeſterday reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Mary Pine*, read *Auguſt* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of her petition.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peters* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the excluſive right and pri-" vilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines, machines and devices, by " him invented or improved, for a term of years therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to remedy the defects of an act, entituled* "A " Supplement to the act, entituled "*An Act more effectually to prevent un-" fair practices in the packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to regulate " the*

" *the exportation of flax-ſeed, butter and biſcuit in kegs,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act relating to Sheriffs,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of* James Pettigrew, *an in-* " *ſolvent Collector of Exciſe within the county of* Northampton, *confined in* " *the gaol of ſaid county,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Roberts,* be added to the committee appointed *September* 3d, on the petition of divers owners of land in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 9, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 9, 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to you an act of Congreſs to eſtabliſh the Treaſury Department; and an act for regulating and clearing veſſels, regulating the coaſting trade, and for other purpoſes; which acts you will be pleaſed to lay before the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With the greateſt reſpect,
Your obedient and humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

The Hon. RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the encloſures were alſo read, and
Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 401 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia,* and 113 inhabitants of the county of *Bedford,* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 306 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, praying no order may be taken for calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, but that the ſame may be left to the deciſion of the Council of Cenſors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Hubley* and *Wagſtaff*, of *Northumberland* county, was read, ſetting forth, that they have made conſiderable progreſs in eſtabliſhing the copperplate printing of muſlins, linens, *&c.* and ſtating their inability to continue and enlarge the ſame without the aid of the Legiſlature; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them a ſum of money, to further the proſecution of their deſign.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Franklin* was read, praying a public ſchool may be eſtabliſhed at *Chamberſburg*, for the education of youth in the ſaid county, and that part of the lands ſet apart for the endowment of public ſchools may be granted for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Commiſſioners of the county of *Dauphin* was read, praying the rents and profits ariſing from the public ferry at *Harriſburg* may be applied, by an act of the Legiſlature, towards the completion of the court-houſe and priſon in ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Lollar*, Eſquire, was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Montgomery*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *Robert Lollar*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That his reſignation be accepted.

On motion made by Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *February* 21ſt and *September* 5th, on the petitions praying for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *Cheſter*, be diſcharged.

The committee appointed *September* 4th, on the petitions of *Joſeph Perkins* and others, made report, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to conſider the petitions of *Joſeph Perkins*, *Abraham Morrw* and *John Nicholſon*, report——

That the claims of the ſaid petitioners are legally chargeable upon the militia fund, but that it is unlikely that fund will be ſufficiently productive within any reaſonable time. Your committee, feeling a conviction that the Houſe are deſirous, as far as in their power, to ſatisfy the juſt claims upon the commonwealth, offer a reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council draw warrants on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Joſeph Perkins*, *Abraham Morrow* and *John Nicholſon*, for the amount of their reſpective accounts, payable out of the fund for claims and improvements, they ſurrendering the warrants already

ready drawn in their favor; that whenever and ſo ſoon as the militia fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive, the amount of the aforeſaid claims be charged thereon, and the fund for claims and improvements have credit for the ſaid amount; that a committee be appointed to report a bill for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot*,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for a third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate* "*county*," be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Montgomery*, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Robert Lollar*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the petitions in favor of, as well as thoſe againſt the calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and Mr. *Hoge*, as Chairman, was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made ſome progreſs in the buſineſs, but, not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again at half paſt three o'clock this afternoon.

Leave was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of this forenoon, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the petitions in favor of, as well as thoſe againſt the calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further progreſs in the buſineſs, but, not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again at half after ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Leave was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 10, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Tranſcripts of the taxes aſſeſſed on the perſons and property within the counties of *York* and *Berks*, for the preſent year, were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

James Cunningham, Eſquire, a Repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, appearing in the Houſe, took and ſubſcribed the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States, paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt, to be taken by the ſeveral State Legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States.

A petition from *Samuel Jones*, a Deputy Surveyor in the late purchaſe, was read, praying a compenſation may be made him for his ſervices in the ſurvey of depreciation lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 183 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, 194 of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, and 61 of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*; made report, which was read; and motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*, report——

That your committee have carefully conſidered the ſubject of ſaid petition, and being deſirous to reſtore harmony in the congregation, offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London* have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of their petition.

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Richards* be added to the committee of accounts.

Agreeably to the order of yeſterday, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the petitions in favor of, as well as thoſe againſt the calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further progreſs in the buſineſs, but, not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again on *Saturday* next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

Leave was accordingly granted.

The report of the committee on the petitions of *Joſeph Perkins* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council draw warrants on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Joſeph Perkins*, *Abraham Morrow* and *John Nicholſon*, for the amount of their reſpective accounts, payable out of the fund for claims and improvements, they ſurrendering the warrants already drawn in their favor.

That whenever and ſo ſoon as the militia fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive, the amount of the aforeſaid claims be charged thereon, and the fund for claims and improvements have credit for the ſaid amount.

That a committee be appointed, to report a bill for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Gore* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to authorize* George Frey, *of* Middletown, " *in the county of* Dauphin, *to ſupport a mill-dam acroſs* Sweetara *creek,* " *and to oblige him to maintain a free navigation for boats and other craft along* " *his mill-race into his mill-dam,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 11, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Robinſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration the ſteps taken by this ſtate heretofore, for the purpoſe of granting to the Congreſs of the United States a diſtrict within this ſtate, for the reſidence of the fœderal government, and to report to the Houſe what they deem proper for their conſideration; and, if the ſaid committee deem it expedient and neceſſary, that they report a bill on the ſubject.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

A petition from *John Livingſton,* of the county of *Waſhington,* remonſtrating againſt the proceedings of *Henry Taylor,* Eſquire, as a Juſtice of the Peace in and for the ſaid county, was read, together with a letter from the ſaid Juſtice, in vindication of his conduct.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 68 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia* and 81 inhabitants of the county of *Franklin* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, and for making ſuch other alterations as to them ſhall ſeem neceſſary in the ſaid conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſhua Elder* and *John Elder,* junior, read *September* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Barr* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Samuel Jones,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of the biſcuit bakers of the city of *Philadelphia,* read *September* 8th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That the ſame be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Upper Bald Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Northumberland,* read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Johnſton,* to report thereon.

The petition of 111 inhabitants of the townſhip of *Greenwood,* in the county of *Cumberland,* read *September* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th and 31ſt, on the petitions of *Thomas Pilkington, Philip Lower* and *John Clendinnen,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *Thomas Pilkington, Philip Lower* and *John Clendinnen,* report——

That they have examined into the caſes of the ſeveral petitioners, and find that there is nothing in them that requires the intervention of this Houſe, as they are properly relievable by the courts of juſtice, under the exiſting laws for the relief of inſolvent debtors. Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the ſaid petitioners have leave to withdraw their ſeveral petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the letter of *John Dunlap,* tranſmitted with the meſſage of Council, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee on ways and means, read *September* 2d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer for the ſum of *eight hundred and ſixty-five pounds fifteen ſhillings and four-pence,* in full of the deficiency in negociating the purchaſe of the tract of country on *Lake Erie,* to be paid out of the *ten thouſand pounds* appropriated by act of Aſſembly of the 26th of *March,* 1789, for claims and improvements.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Kennedy* be added, in the room of Mr. *Maclay,* to the committee appointed *September* 1ſt, on the petition of *Thomas Butler.*

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an act, entituled* " An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London,* in the county of *Cheſter,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills, having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to authorize* George Frey, *of* Middletown, *in the county of* Dauphin, *to ſupport a mill-dam acroſs* Sweetara *creek, and to oblige him to maintain a free navigation for boats and other craft along his mill-race, into his mill-dam.*

An ACT *for the relief of* James Pettigrew, *an inſolvent debtor in the county of* Northampton, *confined in the gaol of ſaid county.*

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Carſon* be added to the committee appointed *November* 12th laſt, on the petition of *Edward Stiles*, in the room of Mr. *Lollar*.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 12, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 51 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* and 65 inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, and for making ſuch other alterations as to them ſhall ſeem neceſſary in the ſaid conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 54 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Frederick Antes*, in behalf of himſelf and others, was read, praying this Houſe to grant them a pre-emption right to certain tracts of land on *French* creek, between Fort *le Boeuf* and the donation grants, under certain conditions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from divers merchants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that by virtue of divers acts of Aſſembly they are entitled to a drawback on all goods, wares and merchandize, exported or to be exported from this ſtate, and which were imported into the ſame before the firſt day of *Auguſt* laſt; that the late Collector of the impoſt, not conceiving himſelf any longer authorized to act under the appointment of this ſtate, declines making diſcounts or paying the ſaid drawbacks, and praying relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The committee to whom was re-committed, *March* 20th, the report on the petition of *Gabriel Coxe*, and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the report of the committee on the petition of *Gabriel Coxe*, *George Wallandigham* and *Andrew Swearingen*, beg leave to report——

That it appears to your committee, from the beſt information they have been able to obtain on the ſubject, that the monies recovered from *Gabriel Coxe*, *George Wallandigham* and *Andrew Swearingen*, as ſet forth in their petition, were for militia ſervices performed on the frontiers of this commonwealth, at a time when the ſaid ſervices were eſſentially neceſſary for the protection of the frontier inhabitants, and at a time when the militia of that county could not be called out under the law, on account of a diſpute then exiſting between this ſtate and that of *Virginia*; your committee are of opinion, that it is juſt and reaſonable the ſaid ſervices ſhould be rewarded agreeably to juſtice and equity: Therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to iſſue certificates to the ſaid *Gabriel Coxe*, *George Wallandigham* and *Andrew Swearingen*, for the whole of the money recovered of them on account of the pay of Captain *Thomas Bays* and his company, with coſts of ſuit, the ſaid certificates to bear intereſt from the time the money was recovered.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 1ſt, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of the county of *York*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The report of the committee on the petitions of the inhabitants of the weſtern part of *York* county.

Your committee, on the petitions of the weſtern part of *York* county, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, are of opinion, that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted; but as no bill with propriety and agreeably with the conſtitution of this ſtate, anſwering the prayer of the petitioners, can be paſſed into a law during the preſent ſeſſion of Aſſembly, and the bringing in a bill and publiſhing it would be expenſive and to no purpoſe, your committee therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the petitions of the inhabitants of the weſtern part of *York* county, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 28th, on the repreſentation and petition of divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of a number of inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, both in favor of, and againſt the fiſheries in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago*, report——

That your committee are of opinion, that the fiſheries in the ſaid rivers are not ſo beneficial to the inhabitants as ſet forth in the petitions in favor of the fiſheries, and are clearly of opinion, that the works erected on ſaid rivers will tend much more to the benefit of the inhabitants of the borough and county than the fiſheries would do; therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating the fiſheries* "*in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago," paſſed *March* 9th, 1771.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 7th laſt, on that part of the meſſage from Council which reſpects a reviſion and arrangement of the acts of General Aſſembly, and the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange the ſame into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem; and alſo *Auguſt* 28th, on the petition of *Miles Mervin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on that part of the meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to a reviſion of the acts of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and recommends the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange them into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem; and alſo the petition of *Miles Mervin*, on the ſame ſubject, report——

That although a compleat and accurate edition of the acts of General Aſſembly now in force within this commonwealth is greatly wanted, this does not appear to your committee to be the proper time for publiſhing of one. A great part of the acts which were paſſed before the late revolution are either repealed, have been materially altered, are expired by their own limitations, or are become uſeleſs by the change of government, and the ſame fate has attended a very great proportion of thoſe which have been ſince enacted. In addition to this, many of thoſe which are yet in force muſt be repealed, and others conſiderably altered and amended, in ſuch a manner as that our ſyſtem of laws may accord with the conſtitution of the United States, and the regulations which ſhall take place under it. They therefore offer the following reſolutions, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which relates to a reviſion of the acts of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and recommends the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange them into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem, be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next Houſe of General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That *Miles Mervin* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on the letter from the Regiſter-General, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the letter from the Regiſter-General, with the accompanying ſtatement of the public accounts from the books of his office, were referred, report——

That the method of arranging the accounts of the ſtate in his books appears judicious, and the object of the Legiſlature will probably be fully anſwered, *in rendering a complete view of the acounts of the commonwealth at all times practicable*, by the adoption of ſome additional regulations, and the explanation of what may appear obſcure or be liable to miſconſtruction in the act conſtituting the office of Regiſter-General: Under this impreſſion the committee ſubmit the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report a bill for the purpoſes following.

1ſt. To more accurately define the powers of the Regiſter-General in ſettling the current accounts.

2dly. To provide for ſpeedily furniſhing to the Regiſter-General the balances which did ſubſiſt between the commonwealth and other communities or individuals on the 28th of *March* laſt, and for the compariſon of the ſame with the books or papers of the Comptroller-General.

3dly. To provide for the regiſtry of ſuch continental and new-loan certificates as have been or ſhall be exchanged for each other, and of the payments or receipts of indents for equalizing the balance of intereſt between them.

4thly. To provide for regiſtering ſuch certificates as have been ſince the 28th of *March* laſt, or in future ſhall be iſſued by the Comptroller-General, for balances due by the commonwealth.

5thly. To require the Treaſurer of the ſtate to furniſh a monthly account of his payment of intereſt, and of all his receipts of monies, to the Regiſter-General.

6thly. To require the Regiſter-General to prepare a general ſtatement of the accounts of the commonwealth, ending on the 30th *September* in each year, and to lay the ſame before each General Aſſembly within one week after the commencement of their firſt ſeſſion, and as often afterwards as the General Aſſembly ſhall direct, and to ſubject his books to the inſpection of the General Aſſembly, Supreme Executive Council, or ſuch committee of either as may be appointed for the purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th, on the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs*, report——

That the ſaid *Francis* and *Robert* have been ſeverally adjudged and declared to be bankrupts, by the Commiſſioners named in certain commiſſions of bankruptcy iſſued againſt them ſeverally; that the ſaid Commiſſioners having adjudged that the ſaid *Francis* had not, by his anſwers, made a full and fair diſcloſure of his eſtate and effects, have for that cauſe committed him to gaol, there to remain till ſuch full and fair diſcloſure ſhould be made; that the ſaid *Robert* not having, in the opinions of the ſaid Commiſſioners, made a full and fair diſcloſure of his eſtate and effects, they refuſed to grant him a certificate of his having conformed as the law in ſuch caſes provided requires, whereupon he hath been arreſted, and is now in gaol at the ſuits of his creditors; that the ſaid *Francis* and *Robert*, having been adjudged to be bankrupts, are not entitled to relief under the inſolvent acts of this commonwealth, be the circumſtances of their reſpective caſes in other reſpects what they may; that a power lodged in any man or ſett of men to determine both law and fact, without re-examination or controul, appears to your committee in a great meaſure unprecedented, and dangerous to the rights and liberty of the ſubject: They therefore offer the following reſolutions, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authorize a re-examination, in the Supreme Court of this commonwealth, of the proceedings of the Commiſſioners of Bankruptcy againſt *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs*, reſpectively, and to provide for the relief of them, or either of them that may appear to be juſtly entitled thereto.

Reſolved, That it be ſpecially recommended to the next Houſe of General Aſſembly to amend the bankrupt laws of this commonwealth, in ſuch manner as that the proceedings of the Commiſſioners may be liable to a proper examination and controul.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 7th, on the petitions from *Verſailles* and *Plumb* townſhips, in the county of *Allegheny*, for and againſt a new election diſtrict, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The report of the committee on the petitions of the inhabitants of *Verſailles* and *Plumb* townſhips, in *Allegheny* county, and alſo on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Allegheny* county.

Your committee on the petitions of the inhabitants of *Verſailles* and *Plumb* townſhips, in *Allegheny* county, and on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Allegheny* county, are of opinion that the prayer of the petitions of the inhabitants of *Verſailles* and *Plumb* townſhips is reaſonable and juſt, and therefore offer the following reſolution, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to erect the townſhips of *Verſailles* and *Plumb,* in the county of *Allegheny,* into a ſeparate election diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to provide for the payment of the demands of* Joſeph Perkins, Abraham " Morrow *and* John Nicholſon, *upon this commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to cede to the United States the right to exerciſe excluſive legiſlation over* " *ſuch diſtrict as may become the ſeat of government thereof, within this com-* " *monwealth,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal certain parts of an act, entituled* " An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London,* " in the county of *Cheſter,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of *September* 10th, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the petitions in favor of, as well as thoſe againſt the calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further progreſs, but, not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again on *Monday* next, at half paſt three o'clock in the afternoon.

Leave was accordingly granted.

The bill, entituled " *A further Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act " to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for " repealing at a certain time all the laws heretofore made for that purpoſe," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, September 14, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 56 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, and for making ſuch other alterations as to them ſhall ſeem neceſſary in the ſaid conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with their petition read in a former Houſe, *October* 30th, 1787.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to cede to the United States the right to exerciſe excluſive legiſlation over ſuch diſtrict as may become the ſeat of government thereof, within this commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the petitions in favor of, as well as thoſe againſt the calling a Convention, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

And having fully diſcuſſed the ſubject committed to them, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of the whole, on the buſineſs referred to them reſpecting a Convention to alter and amend the conſtitution of this ſtate, report——

That having taken effectual meaſures for ſatiſfying themſelves of the ſenſe of the good people of this commonwealth thereon, they are well aſſured, from the petitions referred to them, from enquiries made and from information given by the ſeveral members, that a large majority of the citizens of this ſtate are not only ſatisfied with the meaſures ſubmitted to them by the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, but are deſirous that the ſame ſhould be carried into effect, in preference to the mode by a Council of Cenſors, which is not only unequal and unneceſſarily expenſive, but too dilatory to produce the ſpeedy and neceſſary alterations, which the late change in the political union and the exigencies of the ſtate require: And as the Bill of Rights declares it to be "an indubitable, unalienable and indefeaſible right of the "community, to reform, alter or aboliſh government, in ſuch manner as "ſhall be by that community judged moſt conducive to the public weal," ſo on this occaſion your committee are perfectly ſatiſfied, that a very great majority of them are deſirous to exerciſe that right in the mode preſcribed.

The petitions in favor of the meaſure, though numerous and reſpectable, have not altogether influenced this opinion. The ſubject has engaged much of the public attention. Members have mixed with their conſtituents in all parts of the ſtate, and have had full time and opportunity to learn their ſentiments; they have, in a committee of the whole, ſeverally communicated the knowledge which they had acquired, and the reſult has been, a full and thorough conviction that the voice of the great majority of the people calls for the meaſure, and that nothing but the ſlender oppoſition which it has met with, and an opinion of its being generally agreeable, has prevented more petitions in its favor.

The committee combine with theſe conſiderations a conviction that the meaſure is in itſelf right and neceſſary; that it will tend to promote the wiſhes of every good citizen, by ſettling a queſtion which has long agitated the public mind, and thereby reſtore harmony, mutual confidence and good order, on the moſt ſolid foundations.

In addition to this, it is the fortunate ſeaſon when all our citizens are on an equal footing to elect their members of Convention, and are for the moſt part within the ſtate, which was not the caſe when the conſtitution was framed. The Convention too will poſſeſs every advantage which time and experience have unfolded, from the forms of government in other ſtates, and the examples of improvement they have ſhewn, as well as from the excellent model, ſo far as it applies, exhibited in the conſtitution of the United States: The committee therefore, in obedience to the wiſhes of the people, ſubmit to the Houſe the following reſolutions, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That, in the opinion of this Houſe, it is expedient and proper for the good people of this commonwealth to chooſe a Convention, for the purpoſe of reviewing, and, if they ſee occaſion, altering and amending the conſtitution of this ſtate; that in the opinion of this Aſſembly, the ſaid Convention ſhould conſiſt of the like number of members from the city of *Philadelphia,* and the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, as compoſe this Houſe, and be choſen on the ſame day, in the ſame manner, by the ſame perſons, at the ſame places, and under the ſame regulations, as are directed and appointed by the election laws of this ſtate, ſave that the returns ſhould be made to the Convention ſo choſen; and that the ſaid Convention ſhould meet at *Philadelphia* on the fourth *Tueſday* in *November* next.

Reſolved, That it be and it is hereby recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly, to provide by law for the expences incurred by the ſaid election and Convention.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Franklin,* read *September* 9th, were read the ſecond time.

On motion,

Ordered, That the ſame be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Franklin,* read *March* 10th laſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion,

Ordered, That the ſame be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting a reviſion of the acts of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange them into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem, and alſo on the petition of *Miles Mervin,* read *September* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which relates to a reviſion of the acts of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and recommends the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange them into a regular and conciſe ſyſtem, be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next Houſe of General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That *Miles Mervin* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee on the repreſentation and petition of divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, reſpecting the fiſhery in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago*, read *September* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſame be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the letter of *John Dunlap*: Whereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee on the letter from the Regiſter-General, read *September* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill for the purpoſes following:

1ſt. To more accurately define the powers of the Regiſter-General in ſettling the current accounts.

2dly. To provide for ſpeedily furniſhing to the Regiſter-General the balances which did ſubſiſt between the commonwealth and other communities, or individuals, on the 28th of *March* laſt, and for the compariſon of the ſame with the books or papers of the Comptroller-General.

3dly. To provide for the regiſtry of ſuch continental and new-loan certificates as have been or ſhall be exchanged for each other, and of the payments or receipts of indents for equalizing the balance of intereſt between them.

4thly. To provide for regiſtering ſuch certificates as have been, ſince the 28th of *March* laſt, or in future ſhall be iſſued by the Comptroller-General, for balances due by the commonwealth.

5thly. To require the Treaſurer of the ſtate to furniſh a monthly account of his payments of intereſt, and of all his receipts of monies, to the Regiſter-General.

6thly. To require the Regiſter-General to prepare a general ſtatement of the accounts of the commonwealth, ending on the 30th *September* in each year, and to lay the ſame before the General Aſſembly within one week after the commencement of their firſt ſeſſion, and as often afterwards as the General Aſſembly ſhall direct, and to ſubject his books to the inſpection of the General Aſſembly, Supreme Executive Council, or ſuch committee of either as may be appointed for the purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Johnſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to cede to the United States the right to exerciſe excluſive legiſlation over ſuch diſtrict as may become the ſeat of government thereof, within this commonwealth*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,

YEAS.

4 *John Salter*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,

YEAS.

7 *John Chapman*,
8 *Valentine Upp*,
9 *Samuel Foulke*,
10 *Richard Thomas*,
11 *James Moore*,
12 *Mark Wilcox*,
13 *John M'Dowell*,
14 *Caleb James*,
15 *Richard Downing*, jun.
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,
17 *James Cunningham*,
18 *Jacob Erb*,
19 *Henry Dering*,
20 *Thomas Clingan*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *Henry Tyſon*,
23 *Joſeph Read*,
24 *David Mitchell*,
25 *Thomas Beale*,
26 *Jonathan Hoge*,
27 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
28 *Joſeph Sands*,

YEAS.

29 *Daniel Brodhead*,
30 *John Ludwig*,
31 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
32 *Peter Ealer*,
33 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
34 *Stephen Balliot*,
35 *Jacob Saylor*,
36 *John White*,
37 *James Barr*,
38 *John Irwin*,
39 *William Todd*,
40 *John Nevil*,
41 *James Johnſon*,
42 *Jacob Reiff*,
43 *Peter Richards*,
44 *Jonathan Roberts*,
45 *Jacob Miley*,
46 *Adam Orth*,
47 *John Carſon*,
48 *Obadiah Gore*,
49 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

4 *James Alliſon*,
5 *John Gilchreeſt*,
6 *James M'Lene*.

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 15, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the ſecond election diſtrict in *Bedford* county was read, praying they may be enabled by law to hold their general elections at the houſe of *William Gaff*, in *Air* townſhip, in the county aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from *John Fitch*, in behalf of himſelf and aſſociates, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the excluſive right and privilege of mak-* "*ing, uſing and vending divers engines, machines and devices, by him invented* "*or improved, for a term of years therein mentioned*," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law, or that he may be heard by Counſel at the bar of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Edward Fox*, Secretary to the Board of Truſtees of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania*, was read, notifying the election of *George Fox*, *David*

David Jackſon and *John Bleakley*, as Truſtees, in the room of certain others who had vacated their ſeats.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “*An Act empowering* Mary Pine *to diſpoſe, by way of lottery, of a certain lot and the buildings thereon erected, together with a collection of paintings and prints, lately the property of her deceaſed huſband,* Robert Edge Pine,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the letter from *John Dunlap*:—Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authorized and directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *John Dunlap,* for *two hundred and forty-eight pounds nineteen ſhillings and eight-pence,* lawful money of *Pennſylvania,* to be paid out of the fund appropriated for claims and improvements, the ſame being in full of the ſum due by this ſtate to the ſaid *John Dunlap,* as an indemnification againſt a ground-rent of eleven piſtoles *per annum,* and the arrearages thereof, iſſuing out of certain lots by him lately purchaſed from this commonwealth as being ſubject to five piſtoles *per annum,* whereas in fact they are ſubject to the ſaid ſum of eleven piſtoles *per annum.*

The report of the committee of the whole, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Logan,* ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Lene,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following motion in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Whereas the petitions of a reſpectable number of citizens have been preſented to the Legiſlature, praying that this Houſe would call a Convention, for the purpoſe of reviſing and altering the conſtitution of the ſtate; but this Houſe not thinking itſelf warranted in taking a ſtep of ſuch importance, without the poſitive inſtructions of a majority of the good people of of the ſtate,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a plan to this Houſe, by which the opinion of the citizens may be taken reſpecting the propriety of calling a Convention, to alter the conſtitution of the ſtate.

And on the queſtion,—“*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*”—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Beale,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *David Mitchell,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Jonathan Hoge,*
6 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
7 *Joſeph Sands,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *John Piper,*
10 *James Barr,*

YEAS.

11 *John Irwin,*
12 *William Todd,*
13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Gilchreeſt,*
16 *James M‘Lene,*
17 *James Johnſon,*
18 *Jacob Miley,*
19 *Adam Orth.*

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William M‘Pherſon*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Mark Wilcox*,
14 *John M‘Dowell*,
15 *Caleb James*,
16 *Richard Downing*, jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Jacob Erb*,
19 *Henry Dering*,
20 *Thomas Clingan*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *Henry Tyſon*,
23 *Joſeph Read*,
24 *Daniel Brodhead*,
25 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
26 *Peter Ealer*,
27 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
28 *Stephen Balliot*,
29 *Jacob Saylor*,
30 *John White*,
31 *John Nevil*,
32 *Jacob Reiff*,
33 *Peter Richards*,
34 *Jonathan Roberts*,
35 *John Carſon*,
36 *Obadiah Gore*,
37 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was carried in the negative.

And the original report recurring,

It was moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

To inſert, after the firſt reſolution, the following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe, a Convention being choſen and met, it would be expedient, juſt and reaſonable, that the Convention ſhould publiſh their amendments and alterations for the conſideration of the people, and adjourn at leaſt four months previous to confirmation.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William M‘Pherſon*,
4 *John Salter*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Mark Wilcox*,
14 *John M‘Dowell*,
15 *Caleb James*,
16 *Richard Downing*, jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Jacob Erb*,
19 *Henry Dering*,
20 *Thomas Clingan*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *Henry Tyſon*,
23 *Joſeph Read*,
24 *David Mitchell*,
25 *Thomas Kennedy*,
26 *Thomas Beale*,
27 *Jonathan Hoge*,
28 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
29 *Joſeph Sands*,
30 *Daniel Brodhead*,
31 *John Ludwig*,
32 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
33 *Peter Ealer*,
34 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.

YEAS.

35 *Stephen Balliot,*
36 *Jacob Saylor,*
37 *John Piper,*
38 *John White,*
39 *James Barr,*
40 *John Irwin,*
41 *William Todd,*
42 *James Alliſon,*
43 *John Nevil,*
44 *Alexander Wright,*
45 *John Gilchreeſt,*

YEAS.

46 *James M'Lene,*
47 *James Johnſon,*
48 *Jacob Reiff,*
49 *Peter Richards,*
50 *Jonathan Roberts,*
51 *Jacob Miley,*
52 *Adam Orth,*
53 *John Carſon,*
54 *Obadiah Gore,*
55 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAY.

1 *William Lewis.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution inſerted.

I DISSENT,

BECAUSE, although I admit, in the fulleſt extent, that it will be proper for the Convention to ſubmit to the conſideration of the people the plan of government which may be formed, and although I fervently wiſh that ſufficient time will be afforded them to deliberate thereon, I am ſo far from being ſatisfied of the right of this Houſe to enter into any reſolutions reſpecting it, that I cannot but conſider them as unwarrantable aſſumptions of power. The reſolution agreed to muſt be intended to have ſome weight and influence with the Convention, or it would not have been propoſed, and as that weight and influence, ſo far as they operate, muſt tend to prevent the unbiaſſed exerciſe of their own minds, in a matter ſubmitted to them by the people, and not by this Houſe, they muſt be highly improper. An adjournment by the Convention is a thing in itſelf ſo deſirable, that were its members to be appointed by this Houſe, and to derive their authority from it, I ſhould not only be for recommending, but directing the meaſure. But the Convention muſt be choſen by the people, in whom alone the authority is lodged, and will derive all their powers from them. They will ſet, and they ought to act, both as to adjournments and in all other reſpects, independent of this Houſe, and ſhould not in the one caſe, any more than in others, be influenced by it. Being to be choſen by the ſame people with ourſelves, it is rather aſſuming in us to ſuppoſe that their wiſdom, virtue or diſcretion will be leſs than our own, and unleſs we diſtruſt their prudent exerciſe thereof, it does not become us, to whom the buſineſs does not appertain, to dictate to thoſe to whom it belongs. They will doubtleſs receive from their conſtituents, and duly reſpect, ſuch inſtructions and recommendations as they may think proper to give, but ought not to receive any from us, who, as a body, have no right to interfere, and who, as individuals, will have a voice with other members of the community. The people may think that an adjournment of four months is too long or too ſhort, and may recommend as they may think proper, but we have no right to think or to act for them. If we have a right to reſolve that an adjournment is proper, we muſt have an equal right to reſolve that it is improper, or that any matter in the formation of the government is right or wrong, according to the prevailing ideas in this Houſe. In our reſolution reſpecting the election, and the meeting of the Convention, we are authorized by the wiſhes of the people, manifeſted to us, but we have no authority of our own, and are not warranted by them to proceed further. When the Convention meet, they will look to the ſource of their authority for inſtructions and recommendations, both as to adjourning and as to other matters, and act with a prudent diſcretion therein; and as that diſcretion ought not to be biaſſed by any ſuppoſed influence of this Houſe, I diſſent from the reſolution, as being calculated to intrench on the rights of the people, and on the free deliberations of their Repreſentatives in Convention, and have recorded my reaſons, in juſtification of my conduct.

WM. LEWIS.

It was then moved by Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

To ſtrike out the word "*Philadelphia*," after the words "*ſhould meet at*," and in lieu thereof inſert the word "*Lancaſter*."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Piper*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Jacob Erb*,
3 *Henry Dering*,
4 *Thomas Clingan*,
5 *Michael Schmyſer*,
6 *Henry Tyſon*,
7 *Joſeph Read*,
8 *David Mitchell*,
9 *Thomas Kennedy*,
10 *Thomas Beale*,
11 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
12 *Jacob Saylor*,

YEAS.

13 *John Piper*,
14 *James Barr*,
15 *William Todd*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *John Gilchreeſt*,
19 *James M‘Lene*,
20 *James Johnſton*,
21 *Jacob Miley*,
22 *Adam Orth*,
23 *John Carſon*,
24 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William M‘Pherſon*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Mark Wilcox*,

NAYS.

14 *John M‘Dowell*,
15 *Caleb James*,
16 *Richard Downing*, jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Jonathan Hoge*,
19 *Joſeph Sands*,
20 *Daniel Brodhead*,
21 *John Ludwig*,
22 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
23 *Peter Ealer*,
24 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
25 *Stephen Balliot*,
26 *John White*,

NAYS.

27 *John Irwin,*
28 *John Nevil,*
29 *Jacob Reiff,*

NAYS.

30 *Peter Richards,*
31 *Jonathan Roberts,*
32 *Obadiah Gore.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The report again recurring, together with the reſolution adopted,

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the report, as amended?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *Lawrence Sickle,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *William M'Pherſon,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Richard Thomas,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Mark Wilcox,*
14 *John M'Dowell,*
15 *Caleb James,*
16 *Richard Downing,* jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Jacob Erb,*
19 *Henry Dering,*
20 *Thomas Clingan,*

YEAS.

21 *Michael Schmyſer,*
22 *Henry Tyſon,*
23 *Joſeph Read,*
24 *Joſeph Sands,*
25 *Daniel Brodhead,*
26 *John Ludwig,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Peter Ealer,*
29 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
30 *Stephen Balliot,*
31 *Jacob Saylor,*
32 *John White,*
33 *John Nevil,*
34 *Jacob Reiff,*
35 *Peter Richards,*
36 *Jonathan Roberts,*
37 *John Carſon,*
38 *Obadiah Gore,*
39 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *David Mitchell,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Jonathan Hoge,*
6 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
7 *John Piper,*
8 *James Barr,*
9 *John Irwin,*

NAYS.

10 *William Todd,*
11 *James Alliſon,*
12 *Alexander Wright,*
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*
14 *James M'Lene,*
15 *James Johnſon,*
16 *Jacob Miley,*
17 *Adam Orth.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the report, with the amendment, adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of the whole, on the buſineſs referred to them reſpecting a Convention to alter and amend the conſtitution of this ſtate, report——

That having taken effectual meaſures for ſatisfying themſelves of the ſenſe of the good people of this commonwealth thereon, they are well aſſured, from the petitions referred to them, from enquiries made and from information

tion given by the ſeveral members, that a large majority of the citizens of this ſtate are not only ſatisfied with the meaſures ſubmitted to them by the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, but are deſirous that the ſame ſhould be carried into effect, in preference to the mode by a Council of Cenſors, which is not only unequal and unneceſſarily expenſive, but too dilatory to produce the ſpeedy and neceſſary alterations, which the late change in the political union and the exigencies of the ſtate require: And as the Bill of Rights declares it to be "an indubitable, unalienable and indefeaſible right of the "community to reform, alter or aboliſh government, in ſuch manner as "ſhall be by that community judged moſt conducive to the public weal," ſo on this occaſion your committee are perfectly ſatisfied, that a very great majority of them are deſirous to exerciſe that right in the mode propoſed.

The petitions in favor of the meaſure, though numerous and reſpectable, have not altogether influenced this opinion. The ſubject has engaged much of the public attention. Members have mixed with their conſtituents in all parts of the ſtate, and have had full time and opportunity to learn their ſentiments; they have, in a committee of the whole, ſeverally communicated the knowledge which they had acquired, and the reſult has been, a full and thorough conviction that the voice of the great majority of the people calls for the meaſure, and that nothing but the ſlender oppoſition which it has met with, and an opinion of its being generally agreeable, has prevented more petitions in its favor.

The committee combine with theſe conſiderations a conviction that the meaſure is in itſelf right and neceſſary; that it will tend to promote the wiſhes of every good citizen, by ſettling a queſtion which has long agitated the public mind, and thereby reſtore harmony, mutual confidence and good order, on the moſt ſolid foundations.

In addition to this, it is the fortunate ſeaſon when all our citizens are on an equal footing to elect their members of Convention, and are for the moſt part within the ſtate, which was not the caſe when the conſtitution was framed. The Convention too will poſſeſs every advantage which time and experience have unfolded, from the forms of government in other ſtates, and the examples of improvement they have ſhewn, as well as from the excellent model, ſo far as it applies, exhibited by the conſtitution of the United States: The committee therefore, in obedience to the wiſhes of the people, ſubmit to the Houſe the following reſolutions, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That, in the opinion of this Houſe, it is expedient and proper for the good people of this commonwealth to chooſe a Convention, for the purpoſe of reviewing, and, if they ſee occaſion, altering and amending the conſtitution of this ſtate; that in the opinion of this Aſſembly, the ſaid Convention ſhould conſiſt of the like number of members from the city of *Philadelphia*, and the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, as compoſe this Houſe, and be choſen on the ſame day, in the ſame manner, by the ſame perſons, at the ſame places, and under the ſame regulations, as are directed and appointed by the election laws of this ſtate, ſave that the returns ſhould be made to the Convention ſo choſen; and that the ſaid Convention ſhould meet at *Philadelphia* on the fourth *Tueſday* in *November* next.

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe, a Convention being choſen and met, it would be expedient, juſt and reaſonable, that the Convention ſhould publiſh their amendments and alterations for the conſideration of the people, and adjourn at leaſt four months previous to confirmation.

Reſolved, That it be and it is hereby recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly, to provide by law for the expences incurred by the ſaid election and Convention.

On motion,

Ordered, That 7000 copies in the *Engliſh*, and 3000 in the *German* language, of the foregoing reſolutions, be printed, and diſtributed for the information of the citizens of this ſtate.

We Diſſent from the meaſures adopted by this Houſe for calling a Convention,

1ſt. BECAUSE we are of opinion that this Houſe is not competent to the ſubject. We are delegated for the ſpecial purpoſes of legiſlation agreeably to the conſtitution. Our authority is derived from it, and limited by it. We are bound by the ſanction of our ſolemn oaths to do nothing injurious to it, and the good people of *Pennſylvania* have in the conſtitution declared the only mode in which they will exerciſe "the right of a community to reform, alter or aboliſh government," as being the manner moſt conducive to the public weal.

2d. Becauſe we are of opinion that if this Houſe were competent to the ſubject, they have not ſufficient grounds for adopting this meaſure. It is clear to us that a majority of the good people of the ſtate are averſe to it. This Houſe originated it from their own mere motion, without any application from their conſtituents, and invited the people to ſignify their aſſent. After an effort of ſeveral months, ſupported by the greateſt exertions of legiſlative influence, and without any conſiderable interference to oppoſe them, this aſſent has been extorted from not more than (about) one ſeventh of the people; and this, we are authorized to aſſert from our own knowledge and the beſt information, was effected by the moſt deceptious means, and that in many inſtances the petitioners ſuppoſed the object of the application to this Houſe was the obtaining amendments to the fœderal conſtitution, and for the lowering of the taxes in this ſtate. Theſe reaſons, ſo far as it is grounded on the ſmall number of petitioners, are ſtrengthened by the information given in this Houſe from, and of the moſt wealthy and populous parts of the ſtate, that, ſince the petitions were ſigned, great changes have taken place in the wiſhes of the people on this ſubject.

3d. Becauſe, when an attempt was lately made to effect the ſame meaſure, a majority of the good people of the ſtate interpoſed, denying the right or power of their Repreſentatives to interfere, and gave a moſt decided and unambiguous evidence of their attachment to the preſent conſtitution.

4th. Becauſe the Supreme Executive Council have not been adviſed with nor had any concurrence in the meaſure propoſed, but have given an unequivocal mark of their diſapprobation, and yet they are equally intereſted, and equally Repreſentatives of the good people of the ſtate.

5th. Becauſe the time propoſed to the people for electing members of the intended Convention is too ſoon to admit of that general information and full conſideration which ſo important a meaſure deſerves. Sheriffs and Coroners have been months canvaſſing for their comparatively trifling offices, and in a caſe of inconceivable importance to every member of the community and their poſterity for ages, a knowledge of which ſhould be carried to the doors of every houſe, but little more time is given than is ſufficient to ride to the doors of the county Court-houſes of the ſtate.

6th. Becauſe this meaſure at once infringes the ſolemn compact entered into by the people of this ſtate with each other, to be ruled by fixed principles; will render every form of government precarious and unſtable; encourage factions, in their beginning contemptible for numbers, by a perſevering oppoſition to any adminiſtration, to hope for ſucceſs; and ſubject the lives and liberties of the good people of this commonwealth, and all law and government, to uncertainty; render every thing that is dear ſubject to the caprice of a factious and corrupt majority in the Legiſlature; deſtroy all confidence in our government, and prevent foreigners from giving that preference to *Pennſylvania*, as an aſylum from oppreſſion, which we have hitherto experienced.

James M'Lene,
John Piper,
Jonathan Hoge,
James Johnſton,
Alexander Wright,
John Gilchreeſt,
James Barr,
James Alliſon,
Thomas Beale,
Thomas Kennedy.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate* " *county*," and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 16, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *Robert Morris* and *William Maclay*, Eſquires, Senators from this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, together with the anſwer, therewith tranſmitted, of his Excellency the Preſident of the United States to the Addreſs of this Houſe, unanimouſly adopted *September* 5th, which anſwer is as follows, *viz.*

To the Representatives *of the* Freemen *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in* General Assembly *met.*

GENTLEMEN,

WHEN the Repreſentatives of a free people, delivering the ſenſe of their conſtituents, give ſuch marks of affectionate attachment to an individual as are contained in your addreſs to me, it muſt call forth the warmeſt acknowledgments of a grateful heart. Under this impreſſion, I beg you to believe that your favorable opinion of my paſt conduct, and kind congratulations on my elevation to the high ſtation which I now fill, are indelibly marked on my mind.

The early and decided part which the citizens of *Pennſylvania* took in behalf of the preſent ſyſtem of government cannot be forgotten by the people of theſe United States;—and in acknowledging the grateful ſenſe which I have

I have of your aſſurances of the firm and conſtant ſupport of your ſtate in all meaſures, in which its aid ſhall be neceſſary, for rendering my adminiſtration eaſy to myſelf and beneficial to our country, I truſt that I meet the concurrence of all good citizens.

The virtue, moderation and patriotiſm, which have marked the ſteps of the *American* people in framing, adopting, and thus far carrying into effect our preſent ſyſtem of government, has excited the admiration of nations; and it now only remains for us to act up to thoſe principles which ſhould characteriſe a free and enlightened people, that we may gain reſpect abroad, and enſure happineſs to ourſelves and to our poſterity. It ſhould be the higheſt ambition of every *American* to extend his views beyond himſelf, and to bear in mind that his conduct will not only affect himſelf, his country, and his immediate poſterity, but that its influence and effects may be co-extenſive with the world, and ſtamp political happineſs or miſery on ages yet unborn.—To obtain this deſirable end, and to eſtabliſh the government of *laws*, the *union* of theſe ſtates is abſolutely neceſſary; therefore, in every proceeding, this great, this important object ſhould ever be kept in view; and ſo long as our meaſures tend to this, and are marked with the wiſdom of a well-informed and enlightened people, we may reaſonably hope, under the ſmiles of Heaven, to convince the world, that the happineſs of nations can be accompliſhed by pacific revolutions in their political ſyſtems, without the deſtructive intervention of the ſword.

Your wiſhes for my perſonal happineſs, and fervent prayers for the preſervation of my exiſtence, have made a grateful impreſſion upon me; and I ſhall not fail to implore the Divine Author of the Univerſe to beſtow thoſe bleſſings upon you and your conſtituents, that can make a people happy.

G. WASHINGTON.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 16, 1789.

SIR,

I DO myſelf the honor of tranſmitting to you ſurveys of four tracts of land, directed to be reſerved for the uſe of the ſtate by a reſolution of the General Aſſembly of the twenty-fourth day of *March* laſt, with Mr. *Adlum*'s account of the expence of making thoſe ſurveys, for the payment of which no proviſion hath been made by the Legiſlature.

I have the honor to be,
With the greateſt reſpect, SIR,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with its encloſures, to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Petitions from 374 inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, and for making ſuch other alterations as to them ſhall ſeem neceſſary in the ſaid conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 52 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia* and 38 of the county of *Montgomery* were read, praying a law may be paſſed, to aboliſh the exciſe upon ſpirituous liquors within this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the bill, entituled " *An Act for annexing part of the* " *county of* Waſhington *to the county of* Allegheny," may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for annexing part of the county of* Waſhing- " ton *to the county of* Allegheny," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the* " *excluſive right and privilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines,* " *machines and devices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years there-* " *in mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time:

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs ?*"—

In was moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

To poſtpone the ſaid queſtion, in order to take up for a ſecond reading the petition of *John Fitch,* read yeſterday.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the* " *aforeſaid purpoſe ?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative, and the petition read the ſecond time.

A motion was then made by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

That the ſaid bill, together with the petition of *John Fitch,* be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly.

Which was carried in the negative.

The original queſtion then recurring, *viz.*—" *Will the Houſe conſider the* " *ſaid bill by paragraphs ?*"—and the queſtion being taken,

It was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 17, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 69 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* and 162 inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt, reſpecting the election of members of a Convention, for accommodating the conſtitution of this ſtate to the government of the United States, and for making ſuch other alterations as to them ſhall ſeem neceſſary in the ſaid conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt, on the petitions of divers owners of land in the county of *Luzerne*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of ſundry perſons claiming lands in the county of *Luzerne*, and other papers relating thereto, report——

That having enquired into the nature of the complaints of ſaid petitioners, find that the law paſſed 28th *March*, 1787, entituled "*An Act for* "*aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, "*the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *&c.*" could not be carried into execution, on account of the Commiſſioners appointed for that purpoſe having been obliged to abandon their duty, and that they could not again enter thereon, with ſafety to their perſons, within the time limited to receive the claims in ſaid act ſpecified, for which reaſon the General Aſſembly, by their law paſſed 29th *March*, 1788, have ſuſpended the powers of ſaid Commiſſioners, in order to prevent the partial execution of the ſaid firſt recited act; and your committee being of opinion that carrying the ſaid act into effect in the preſent ſituation of affairs would be unjuſt and improper, offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons,* "*called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* "Luzerne."

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 11th, on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Upper Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Northumberland*, and alſo of *Greenwood* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in *Northumberland* county, and alſo the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Greenwood* townſhip, in *Cumberland* county, reſpecting the diviſion of ſaid laſt named county, report——

That it appears to your committee to be reaſonable and proper that the prayers of the ſaid reſpective petitioners be granted: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolutions,

Reſolved, That the boundary lines of the new county propoſed to be ſeparated from *Cumberland* county ought to be ſo deſcribed, as to include *Bald-Eagle* townſhip and part of *Potter*'s townſhip, both in *Northumberland* county.

Reſolved, That ſo much of *Greenwood* townſhip, as is ſituate ſouth of the ſummit of *Turkey Hill*, ought to remain in *Cumberland* county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for the appointment of a Re-"giſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this ſtate," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the boundary line between this ſtate and the ſtate* "*of* New-York," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “*An Act for erecting part of* Cumberland *county into a ſeparate county*,” was read the third time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

“And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid county of *Cumberland* ſhall elect three members only, and the county of *Mifflin* ſhall elect one member, to repreſent them reſpectively in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, from and after the paſſing of this act, until the ſame ſhall be altered agreeable to the conſtitution and laws of this ſtate, one Councillor, two fit perſons for Sheriffs, two fit perſons for Coroners, and three Commiſſioners, in the ſame manner, and under the ſame rules, regulations and penalties, as by the conſtitution and laws of this ſtate is directed in reſpect to other counties; and the ſaid Repreſentatives, Councillor and other officers, when choſen as aforeſaid, and duly qualified, ſhall have and enjoy all and ſingular ſuch powers, authorities and privileges, in and for their county, as ſuch officers elected in and for any other county of this ſtate may, can or ought to have.”

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan*,

To annex to the ſaid paragraph the following proviſo, *viz.*

“Provided nevertheleſs, That no Councillor ſhall be elected by the freemen of the ſaid county of *Mifflin*, to ſerve for the ſaid county, before the term for which the preſent Councillor for the county of *Cumberland* was elected ſhall expire, or till his death, reſignation or removal from office.”

And on the queſtion,—“*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Ihrie*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William M'Pherſon*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Mark Wilcox*,
14 *John M'Dowell*,
15 *Caleb James*,
16 *Richard Downing*, jun.
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Jacob Erb*,
19 *Henry Dering*,
20 *Thomas Clingan*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,

YEAS.

22 *Henry Tyſon*,
23 *Joſeph Read*,
24 *David Mitchell*,
25 *Jonathan Hoge*,
26 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
27 *Joſeph Sands*,
28 *Daniel Brodhead*,
29 *John Ludwig*,
30 *Peter Ealer*,
31 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
32 *Stephen Balliot*,
33 *Jacob Saylor*,
34 *John White*,
35 *James Barr*,
36 *John Irwin*,
37 *James Alliſon*,
38 *John Nevil*,
39 *John Gilchreeſt*,
40 *James Johnſon*,
41 *Jacob Reiff*,
42 *Peter Richards*,

YEAS.

43 *Jonathan Roberts,*
44 *Jacob Miley,*
45 *Adam Orth,*

YEAS.

46 *John Carſon,*
47 *Obadiah Gore,*
48 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *William Robinſon,* jun.
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

5 *William Todd,*
6 *Alexander Wright,*
7 *James M'Lene.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the ſaid paragraph, with the proviſo, adopted.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for annexing part of the county of* Waſhington *to the county of* Allegheny," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 18, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 15*th*, 1789.

SIR,

I DO myſelf the honor to tranſmit to you, to be laid before the General Aſſembly, a letter from *Peter Marmie,* relative to a claim of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, againſt this ſtate, with a report of a committee of Council on that claim.

I have the honor to be,
With the greateſt reſpect,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the papers encloſed were alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peters* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſundry inhabitants of *Peters* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* report the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to divide the public taxes laid and aſſeſſed within the townſhip of *Peters,* in the county of *Franklin,* in the year 1782, into three equal parts, and to authorize and empower the collecting thereof in three annual payments, with a proviſo that the whole of each perſon's ſhare or proportion thereof, who ſhall neglect or refuſe to give ſecurity for the ſame if required, ſhall be immediately levied and collected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to authorize the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Trea-* "*ſurer for an additional ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing* "*the* Indian *lands on* Lake Erie," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the* "*excluſive right and privilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines,* "*machines and devices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years therein* "*mentioned,*" read *September* 16th, recurring,

It was, on motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene,*

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*for erecting the town of* Eaſton, *in the county of* Northampton, *into a* "*borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" and having conſidered the ſeveral paragraphs thereof,

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot,*

To ſubſtitute another title to the ſaid bill, as follows, *viz.*

"*An Act for erecting certain parts of* Cumberland *and* Northumberland "*counties into a ſeparate county.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative. Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Berks *into election di-* "*ſtricts,* was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 19, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Thomas Stokely,* Eſquire, was read, in vindication of his conduct againſt the charges contained in the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* read *Auguſt* 31ſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Johnſon,* to report thereon.

A petition from the Faculty of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania* was read, praying they may be allowed the liberty of ringing the State-houſe bell at the times fixed for collecting the ſtudents of that ſeminary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred, *September* 16th, the letter from his Excellency the Preſident, with the incloſed accounts of *John Adlum,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred the letter from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, incloſing the accounts of *John Adlum,* for ſurveying ſundry tracts located, laid out and ſurveyed, for the uſe of the ſtate, at the mouth of *French-creek,* at Fort *Le Bœuf, Preſque Iſle,* and the mouth of *Conewango,* report——That it be

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, for the ſum of *one hundred and ſeventy-five pounds eight ſhillings and eight-pence,* lawful money of this ſtate, in favor of *John Adlum,* in full of all expences for laying out and ſurveying four tracts of land reſerved by this ſtate, at the mouth of *French-creek,* at Fort *Le Bœuf, Preſque Iſle,* and the mouth of *Conewango,* the ſaid ſum to be paid out of the fund ſet apart for claims and improvements; that the ſaid Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſted to cauſe the ſurveys of the ſaid tracts to be lodged in the Surveyor-General's office, there to remain of record, for the uſe of this commonwealth.

The petition of *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox,* read *September* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Hoge,* to report thereon.

The report of the committee on the petitions of *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs,* read *September* 12th, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe a re-examination, in the Supreme Court of this commonwealth, of the proceedings of the Commiſſioners of Bankruptcy againſt *Francis White* and *Robert Roſs,* reſpectively, and to provide for the relief of them, or either of them, that may appear to be juſtly entitled thereto.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That it be ſpecially recommended to the next Houſe of General Aſſembly to amend the bankrupt laws of this commonwealth, in ſuch manner as that the proceedings of the Commiſſioners may be liable to a proper examination and controul.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for dividing the county of* Cheſter, *and to* " *erect the lower or eaſternmoſt part thereof into a ſeparate county,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for the " appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the " accounts of this ſtate," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of* Cumberland "*and* Northumberland *counties into a ſeparate county,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Alliſon,*

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Mifflin,* and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, September 21, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A repreſentation from the Honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met,*

The JUSTICES of the Supreme Court of Judicature of the ſame Commonwealth

Humbly Repreſent,

THAT they have ſuſtained great hardſhip and wrong in the payment of their ſalaries in depreciated paper bills of credit; whereby thoſe ſalaries, which by the conſtitution and laws ought to be fixed and certain, have been leſſened and with-held; that the rule of juſtice ſhould govern a ſtate as well as individuals, and that they conceive they are by that rule entitled to have the difference between the value of the ſeveral ſums received by them from time to time in paper, and the like ſums in ſpecie, adjuſted and paid.

They further beg leave to obſerve, that in caſes where the ſubject conceives he has a well grounded claim againſt the ſovereign, there is a mode provided in every well regulated government for the diſcuſſion of ſuch claim and the attainment of right, as in *England* by petition in chancery, and in *Pennſylvania* to the government; that this government has always hitherto granted a trial by jury to decide queſtions ariſing between the citizen and the ſtate, when applied to for that purpoſe, as in the caſe of General *Daniel Roberdeau,* and many others.

The Judges therefore humbly requeſt, that they may ſeverally be permitted to enter amicable actions, in any Court to be agreed upon by the Honorable Houſe, againſt this commonwealth, to which the Attorney-General ſhall appear, and an iſſue be joined, to try and determine their reſpective

tive claims, or that juſtice may be done to them in any other manner that the wiſdom of the Houſe ſhall direct.

They have the honor to be, with very great regard,
The Honorable Houſe's
Moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervants,

THO. M'KEAN,
and for
WM. A. ATLEE,
JACOB RUSH,
GEO. BRYAN.

Philadelphia, September 21*ſt*, 1789.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Pilkington*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying he may be releaſed from further impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens, and the petition of the firſt rate Pilots of the bay and river *Delaware*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the conſideration of the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, tranſmitted to the Houſe by the Supreme Executive Council, and the petition of the firſt rate Pilots of the bay and river *Delaware* on the ſame ſubject, report——

That the act, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" will require material alterations, which cannot conveniently be perfected during the ſitting of the preſent General Aſſembly, but which will require early attention; therefore they offer a reſolution,

Reſolved, That the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, and the petition of the firſt rate branch Pilots plying in the bay and river *Delaware*, be ſpecially recommended to the early attention of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The report of the committee on the petitions of divers owners of land in the county of *Luzerne*, read *September* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

It was then moved by Mr. *Robinſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gore*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolution in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That all petitions and other papers on the files of the Houſe, on the ſubject of the diſputed claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne*, be ſpecially recommended to the ſerious conſideration of the next General Aſſembly.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed reſolution adopted.

The report of the committee on the petitions of *Gabriel Coxe* and others, read *September* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene*,

Ordered, That the ſame be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 25th, on the petition of the loaf bread bakers in the city of *Philadelphia*, and the vicinity thereof, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz*.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition from the bakers of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the neighbourhood thereof, report——

That it appears to your committee that the inconveniencies complained of by the petitioners principally ariſe from the laws for the inſpection of bread not being ſufficiently calculated to effectually guard againſt frauds and impoſitions; and in order that the ſame may be remedied, your committee offer the following reſolution, *to wit*.

Reſolved, That it be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly to alter and amend the laws with reſpect to the inſpection of bread, in ſuch manner as to guard againſt frauds and impoſitions in the making and vending thereof.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the payment of the demands of* "Joſeph Perkins, Abraham Morrow *and* John Nicholſon, *upon this com*"*monwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council* "*to draw on the State Treaſurer for an additional ſum of money, for defray*"*ing the expence of purchaſing of the* Indians *lands on* Lake Erie," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral laws of this common*"*wealth reſpecting attachments*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act relating to Sheriffs and Coroners*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a cer*"*tain tract of meadow land, ſituate in the precinct of* Richmond, *in the* "*townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and* "*flood-gates in repair*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant the corporation of the Miniſter,* "*Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the* German *Reformed congregation of* Phi"ladelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for* "*endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Berks *into election diſtricts,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 22, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Samuel M'Clure* and *Jacob Weitzel* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Mifflin.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Lewis, James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell* was read, together with copies of the record of the conviction of *Joſeph Miller,* Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace in and for the county of *Lancaſter,* of keeping a tippling houſe, and praying he may be diſmiſſed from his ſaid office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 3d, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition againſt *Thomas Stokely,* Eſquire, Regiſter of wills and Recorder of deeds for the county of *Waſhington,* report——

That having attentively conſidered the charges in the ſaid petition contained, with the evidence brought in proof thereof, they are of opinion that the ſaid charges are not ſufficiently ſupported: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners againſt *Thomas Stokely,* Eſquire, Regiſter of wills and Recorder of deeds for the county of *Waſhington,* charging him with certain miſdemeanors in his ſaid offices, have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 19th, on the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* ſubmit the following reſolution to the conſideration of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox* be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next General Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 12th, on the memorial of the merchants of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of divers merchants of the city of *Philadelphia,* reſpecting drawbacks and diſcounts of certain duties on impoſts, report——

That having duly attended to the buſineſs ſubmitted to them, they are of opinion that ſo much of the acts in the petition mentioned, as relates to the inconvenience therein ſtated, is in full force and unrepealed, and that *Sharp Delany*, Eſquire, is, ſo far as concerns the ſame, the officer of this commonwealth, and to be directed and governed by its laws: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to direct and require *Sharp Delany*, Eſquire, to make diſcounts and pay drawbacks on goods imported before the firſt day of *Auguſt* laſt, and re-ſhipped, or to be re-ſhipped, agreeably to the proviſions contained in the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and to the directions thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* Robert Roſs *and* Francis White," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Irwin*, in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to repeal an act, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal* "*laws of this ſtate*," enacted into a law the fifteenth day of *September*, 1786, and alſo one other act, entituled "*An Act to amend an act, entituled* "An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate," enacted into a law the twenty-ſeventh day of *March* laſt.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Schmyſer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *John Salter*,
2 *George Logan*,
3 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
4 *John M'Dowell*,
5 *Alexander Lowrey*,
6 *Michael Schmyſer*,
7 *Joſeph Read*,
8 *Joſeph Sands*,
9 *John Ludwig*,
10 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
11 *Peter Ealer*,

YEAS.

12 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
13 *Jacob Saylor*,
14 *John Piper*,
15 *John White*,
16 *James Barr*,
17 *John Irwin*,
18 *Jacob Reiff*,
19 *Peter Richards*,
20 *Jacob Miley*,
21 *John Carſon*,
22 *Obadiah Gore*.

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Robinſon*, jun.
5 *John Chapman*,
6 *Samuel Foulke*,
7 *Richard Thomas*,
8 *James Moore*,
9 *Mark Wilcox*,

NAYS.

10 *Caleb James*,
11 *Richard Downing*, jun.
12 *James Cunningham*,
13 *Jacob Erb*,
14 *Henry Dering*,
15 *Henry Tyſon*,
16 *David Mitchell*,
17 *Thomas Kennedy*,
18 *Thomas Beale*,

NAYS.

19 *Jonathan Hoge,*
20 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
21 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
22 *Daniel Brodhead,*
23 *Stephen Balliot,*
24 *John Nevil,*
25 *Alexander Wright,*

NAYS.

26 *John Gilchreeſt,*
27 *James M'Lene,*
28 *James Johnſton,*
29 *Jonathan Roberts,*
30 *Adam Orth,*
31 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The repreſentation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot,* as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That an action may be entered, and an iſſue joined, to be tried before the Juſtices of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia,* by a ſpecial jury, by each of the Juſtices of the Supreme Court as plaintiff, and the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania* as defendant, *to wit,* whether, by the conſtitution, law or equity, the commonwealth is bound to pay the ſalaries to them ſeverally allowed in ſpecie, or the value thereof in other money, to which actions the Attorney-General ſhall appear; and if the ſaid iſſue ſhall be found for the plaintiff, the ſame jury ſhall aſcertain the ſum of money in ſpecie which the plaintiff is entitled to receive, to render the payments heretofore made to him in depreciated paper money equal to ſpecie; and that after the verdicts and judgments the Supreme Executive Council ſhall draw warrants upon the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſums of money ſo found for the plaintiffs, ſeverally, which the ſaid Treaſurer is hereby authorized and required to pay and diſcharge, out of the monies appropriated for the payment of the Judges ſalaries.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid reſolution?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Logan,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *Lawrence Sickle,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
7 *John Chapman,*
8 *James Moore,*
9 *John M'Dowell,*
10 *Alexander Lowrey,*
11 *James Cunningham,*
12 *Jacob Erb,*
13 *Henry Dering,*
14 *Michael Schmyſer,*
15 *Henry Tyſon,*
16 *Joſeph Read,*
17 *Jonathan Hoge,*
18 *Daniel Brodhead,*

YEAS.

19 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
20 *Peter Ealer,*
21 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
22 *Stephen Balliot,*
23 *Jacob Saylor,*
24 *John Piper,*
25 *John White,*
26 *John Irwin,*
27 *John Nevil,*
28 *Alexander Wright,*
29 *John Gilchreeſt,*
30 *James M'Lene,*
31 *James Johnſon,*
32 *Jacob Reiff,*
33 *Jonathan Roberts,*
34 *Adam Orth,*
35 *John Carſon,*
36 *Obadiah Gore.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Samuel Foulke,*
3 *Richard Thomas,*
4 *Mark Wilcox,*
5 *Caleb James,*
6 *Richard Downing,* jun.
7 *David Mitchell,*
8 *Thomas Kennedy,*
9 *Thomas Beale,*

NAYS.

10 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
11 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
12 *Joſeph Sands,*
13 *John Ludwig,*
14 *James Barr,*
15 *Peter Richards,*
16 *Jacob Miley,*
17 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the excluſive right and privilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines, machines and devices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years.*"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That from and after the paſſing of this act, the ſaid *James Rumſey*, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, ſhall have the ſole and excluſive right, liberty and privilege, within this ſtate, of making, uſing and vending to others, the ſaid boilers for generating ſteam, called *Rumſey*'s boilers; the ſaid ſteam boat, to be propelled through the water by means of the re-action of a ſtream or ſtreams of water, forced by ſteam through trunks or tubes, from the ſtern of the boat, againſt the ſurrounding water, called *Rumſey*'s ſteam boat; the ſaid improvement of *Savery*'s engine for raiſing water, for the turning of mills, or for agricultural or other purpoſes, called *Rumſey*'s improvement upon *Savery*'s machine, or ſteam engine; the ſaid mode for turning mill-ſtones, and other machinery requiring a circular or retrograde motion, called *Rumſey*'s improvement upon Doctor *Barker*'s mill; the ſaid mode of raiſing water, called *Rumſey*'s double piſton machine for raiſing water; the ſaid mode of working ſaw-mills, and other machines requiring an alternately oppoſite motion, perpendicular or horizontal, called *Rumſey*'s cylindric ſaw-mill; the ſaid mode of working ſaw-mills, or other machines requiring an alternately oppoſite motion, called *Rumſey*'s pendulum mill; and the ſaid double cylinder engine, with two connected piſtons, called *Rumſey*'s ſteam and pump cylinder engine."

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

To ſtrike out the words, "the ſaid ſteam boat, to be propelled through the water by means of the re-action of a ſtream or ſtreams of water, forced by ſteam through trunks or tubes, from the ſtern of the boat, againſt the ſurrounding water, called *Rumſey*'s ſteam boat."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Logan,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *George Logan,*

YEAS.

3 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
4 *John Chapman,*

YEAS.

5 *Samuel Foulke,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *Mark Wilcox,*
8 *Caleb James,*
9 *James Cunningham,*
10 *Jacob Erb,*
11 *Jonathan Hoge,*
12 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
13 *Joſeph Sands,*
14 *John Ludwig,*
15 *Peter Ealer,*
16 *Jacob Saylor,*
17 *John Piper,*

YEAS.

18 *James Barr,*
19 *John Nevil,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *James M'Lene,*
22 *James Johnſon,*
23 *Jacob Reiff,*
24 *Peter Richards,*
25 *Jacob Miley,*
26 *Adam Orth,*
27 *John Carſon,*
28 *Obadiah Gore,*
29 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Lewis,*
3 *John Salter,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *Richard Thomas,*
6 *John M'Dowell,*
7 *Richard Downing,* jun.
8 *Alexander Lowrey,*
9 *Henry Dering,*
10 *Michael Schmyſer,*
11 *Henry Tyſon,*
12 *Joſeph Read,*

NAYS.

13 *David Mitchell,*
14 *Thomas Kennedy,*
15 *Thomas Beale,*
16 *Daniel Brodhead,*
17 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
18 *Stephen Balliot,*
19 *John White,*
20 *John Irwin,*
21 *William Todd,*
22 *James Alliſon,*
23 *Alexander Wright,*
24 *Jonathan Roberts.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 23, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 220 inhabitants of the county of *York* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled “ *An Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia *and the neighbourhood thereof,*” and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 449 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county, and praying they may be heard by Council at the bar of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *William Rogers, Samuel Edmiſton* and *David Beale* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Mifflin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 142 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Concord* and *Birmingham*, in the county of *Cheſter*, were read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county, and praying, that in caſe a diviſion ſhould take place, they may not be included within the boundaries of that part of the county intended to be erected into a ſeparate county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts made report, that agreeably to the directions of this Houſe, they received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of *eighteen thouſand eight hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds and ten ſhillings* in bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by act of Aſſembly paſſed the 16th day of *March*, 1785, alſo the ſum of *twenty-four thouſand pounds* in bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by an act of Aſſembly paſſed the 7th day of *April*, 1781, all of which they have examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Mifflin*, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Samuel Edmiſton*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the excluſive right and privilege of mak*-"*ing, uſing and vending divers engines, machines and devices, by him invented* "*or improved, for a term of years therein mentioned,*" and having conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioners againſt *Thomas Stokely*, Eſquire, Regiſter of wills and Recorder of deeds for the county of *Waſhington*, charging him with certain miſdemeanors in his ſaid offices, have leave to withdraw their petition.

The petition of the Faculty of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania*, read *September* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council, to take order thereon.

The report of the committee on ways and means, read *September* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, for the ſum of *one hundred and ſeventy-five pounds eight ſhillings and eight-pence*, lawful money of this ſtate, in favor of *John Adlum*, in full of all expences for laying out and ſurveying four tracts of land reſerved by this ſtate, at the mouth of *French-creek*, at Fort *Le Bœuf*, *Preſque Iſle*, and the mouth of *Conewango*, the ſaid ſum to be paid out of the fund ſet apart for claims and improvements.

Reſolved, That the ſaid Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſted to cauſe the ſurveys of the ſaid tracts of land to be lodged in the Surveyor-General's office, there to remain of record, for the uſe of this commonwealth.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to repeal certain parts of an act, entituled* “ An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London,* “ in the county of *Cheſter,*” was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for regulating certain election diſtricts in the* “ *counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Allegheny,” was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Mr. *Lewis,* in his place, read a bill, entituled “ *An Act to cede to and* “ *veſt in the United States the light-houſe at* Cape Henlopen, *and all the beacons, buoys and public piers, together with the lands and tenements thereunto* “ *belonging, and together with the juriſdiction of the ſame;*” and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Lewis,* in his place, read a bill, entituled “ *An Act to appropriate* “ *the ſum of* five thouſand pounds *annually, for the purpoſes therein mentioned;*” and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Lewis,* in his place, read a bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act,* “ *entituled* “ An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight “ Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common-Hall “ in the city of *Philadelphia,* and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of “ *Dickinſon* College, in the borough of *Carliſle;*” and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for the relief of* Robert Roſs *and* Francis “ White,” was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report on the memorial of the merchants of the city of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to direct and require *Sharp Delany,* Eſquire, to make diſcounts and pay drawbacks on goods imported before the firſt day of *Auguſt* laſt, and re-ſhipped, or to be re-ſhipped, agreeably to the proviſions contained in the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, and to the directions thereof.

Ordered, That the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act empowering* Mary Pine *to diſpoſe, by way* “ *of lottery, of a certain lot and the buildings thereon erected, together with a* “ *collection of paintings and prints, lately the property of her deceaſed huſband,* “ Robert Edge Pine,” was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petitions from 449 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, read this forenoon, were read the ſecond time.

It was thereupon moved by Mr. *Moore*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wilcox*,

That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that to-morrow afternoon be aſſigned for that purpoſe.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *September* 4th, to bring in a bill for enforcing the collection of the money raiſed by way of lottery for improving the public roads, *&c.* be diſcharged.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to remedy the defects of an act*, entituled " A Supplement to an act, entituled " *An Act more effectually to prevent* " *unfair practices in the packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to regu-* " *late the exportation of flax-ſeed, butter and biſcuit in kegs*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the Society formed for the* " *relief of diſtreſſed and decayed Pilots, their widows and children*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to cede to and veſt in the United States the* " *light-houſe at* Cape Henlopen, *and all the beacons, buoys and public piers,* " *together with the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, and together with* " *the juriſdiction of the ſame*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for raiſ- " ing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defray- " ing the expence of erecting a Common-Hall in the city of *Philadelphia*, " and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of *Dickinſon* College, in the bo- " rough of *Carliſle*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for erecting the town of* Eaſton, *in the county of* Northampton, *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to grant to the corporation of the Miniſter, Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the* German *Reformed Congregation in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 24, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 13 inhabitants of *Edgmont* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county, and praying they may be heard by Counſel at the bar of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 3d, on the petition of the owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition from the owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate, with the papers accompanying the ſame, be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to continue, until the firſt day of *April* next, an act, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Wright*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William M'Pherſon*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Richard Thomas*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Mark Wilcox*,
12 *John M'Dowell*,
13 *Alexander Lowrey*,
14 *James Cunningham*,
15 *Jacob Erb*,
16 *Henry Dering*,
17 *Michael Schmyſer*,
18 *Jonathan Hoge*,
19 *Daniel Brodhead*,
20 *Peter Ealer*,
21 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
22 *Jacob Saylor*,
23 *Peter Richards*,
24 *Jacob Miley*,
25 *John Carſon*,
26 *Obadiah Gore*,
27 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Caleb James*,
3 *Richard Downing*, jun.
4 *Henry Tyſon*,
5 *Joſeph Read*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
9 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
10 *Joſeph Sands*,
11 *John Ludwig*,
12 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
13 *John Piper*,
14 *John White*,
15 *James Barr*,
16 *William Todd*,
17 *James Alliſon*,
18 *John Nevil*,
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,

NAYS.
21 *James M'Lene,*
22 *James Johnſton,*
23 *Jacob Reiff,*

NAYS.
24 *Jonathan Roberts,*
25 *Adam Orth.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Roberts* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of *Edward Stiles,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Edward Stiles,* ſubmit the following reſolution to the conſideration of the Houſe, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be authorized and directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Edward Stiles,* for *nine hundred and ſixty-ſeven pounds ſixteen ſhillings and eleven-pence,* payable out of the fund ſet apart by "*An Act to appropriate* "*divers funds, accruing and growing due to this commonwealth, towards the* "*payment of the expences of government, and to provide a fund for other pur*"*poſes,*" in full ſatisfaction of his claims againſt this commonweath, as ſtated in his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, appointed to inſpect the books and accounts of the Managers of the State Lottery, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts, directed to examine the proceedings of the Managers of the State Lottery, report——

That, on examination, they have found that the papers and accounts of the Managers are kept with accuracy, and they appear to be ſo arranged, that error or miſtake may be eaſily detected.

For the information of the Houſe, the committee beg leave to communicate,

				Dollars.
1ſt. That by the lottery it was intended to raiſe -				42,000
2d. That the contingent expences of the lottery and Managers commiſſions amount to -	*Dol.* 8,215	38		
3d. That the allowance for gratuities to purchaſers of 100 tickets and upwards, amounts to -	84			
4th. That on tickets taken for the account of the ſtate, which could not be ſold, there is a loſs of	29,240	86		
5th. That there are outſtanding debts to the amount of - - - - -	2,853	89	1-2	
6th. That there is a balance in caſh, for the purpoſes of the lottery - - -	1,605	56	1-2	42,000

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Nevil, September* 4th, relative to the appointment of ſuitable and fit perſons of law knowledge, to preſide in the ſeveral courts within this ſtate, for the due adminiſtration of juſtice.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petition of *Frederick Antes,* read *September* 12th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly.

The petition of *David Meade,* read *Auguſt* 24th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *David Meade* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The petition of *John Levingſton,* read *September* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be diſmiſſed.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident, incloſing the petition of *Daniel Leet,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Carſon* and Mr. *Barr,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act relating to drawbacks and diſcounts,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the boundary line be-" tween this ſtate and the ſtate of* New-York," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for the " appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the " accounts of this ſtate," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act further to continue an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of " lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *September* 5th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Peters* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to divide the public taxes laid and aſſeſſed within the townſhip of *Peters,* in the county of *Franklin,* in the year 1782, into three equal parts, and to authoriſe and empower the collecting thereof in three annual payments, with a proviſo that the whole of each perſon's ſhare or proportion thereof, who ſhall neglect or refuſe to give ſecurity for the ſame if required, ſhall be immediately levied and collected.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident of this ſtate, incloſing the accounts of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, read *September* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with its encloſures, be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The report of the committee on the petition of *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox*, read *September* 22d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition of *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox* be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next General Aſſembly.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the expences of receiving his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, read *September* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the ſum of *one hundred and thirteen pounds and ſix-pence*, in full.

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Brodhead* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petitions of *Thomas Pilkington, Philip Lower* and *John Clendinnen*, read *September* 11th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Thomas Pilkington, Philip Lower* and *John Clendinnen*, have leave to withdraw their ſeveral petitions.

The petition from a number of the inhabitants of the ſecond election diſtrict in *Bedford* county, read *September* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Bedford* county, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in favor of* John Houſton," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Brodhead*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*,

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation and* "*ſupport of the poor of* Berks *county*," be ſpecially recommended to the next Houſe of Aſſembly.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*, containing the following reſolution, *viz.*

Whereas a committee of this Houſe, on the petition of *Margaret Smythe*, praying that the truſtees in a ſettlement of her eſtate made ſoon after her intermarriage with *Frederick Smythe*, and in purſuance thereof, might be enabled to ſell and convey a conſiderable part of her real eſtate, made report at the laſt ſeſſion, in the words and figures following, *to wit.*

"The committee, to whom was referred the petition of Mrs. *Margaret Smythe*, beg leave to report——

"That having attentively conſidered the nature and deſign of marriage articles, they find, that as a woman thereby ſolemnly declares her mind with reſpect to her eſtate, and as ſhe has no will relative thereto after her marriage, except what was expreſly reſerved, they are in courts of law and equity held inviolable as laſt wills, and are never broken in upon by parliamentary interpoſition, except on very ſpecial occaſions, to relieve from diſtreſs, or to better the eſtate for thoſe who may eventually ſucceed to it.

" That to your committee it appears, that Mrs. *Smythe* was, before her intermarriage with Mr. *Frederick Smythe,* entitled, under the will of her late uncle *Joſeph Turner,* Eſquire, to a large real and perſonal eſtate, which was at her own inſtance and deſire veſted in truſtees, for ſuch uſes as ſhe ſhould by a writing, in nature of her laſt will, direct and appoint, and ſubject to no other uſes whatever, except as to the annual profits thereof, which were to be enjoyed by her and her ſaid intended huſband in equal moieties during their joint lives, and his part thereof to be continued to him during his life, if he ſhould ſurvive her; that ſome time after the marriage took effect, the ſaid marriage ſettlement was (in order to enable the ſaid *Frederick* and *Margaret* to raiſe a conſiderable ſum of money by mortgage on a houſe and lot of hers in the city of *Philadelphia)* cancelled, with the conſent of the ſaid truſtees and of the next of kin of the ſaid *Margaret,* who were deſirous to aid them therein, and a new ſettlement made to the ſame uſes; with this difference, that the perſonal eſtate of Mrs. *Smythe* was not included therein, but became ſubject to the diſpoſal of Mr. *Smythe,* and with this further difference, that the ſaid *Frederick* and *Margaret* were thereby enabled to raiſe *three thouſand pounds* by mortgage on the ſaid houſe and lot, and that to pay off and reſtore the ſame unencumbered to the original truſts, the truſtees were authorized to ſell all the lands and tenements of Mrs. *Smythe* in the ſtate of *New-Jerſey,* and to pay her the ſurplus remaining therefrom, after diſcharging ſuch mortgage or mortgages; that *one thouſand pounds* were raiſed by mortgage on the ſaid houſe and lot by the ſaid *Frederick* and *Margaret,* who being afterwards deſirous of ſelling the ſame houſe and lot, and the Truſtees not being authorized to concur therein, a petition was preſented to the General Aſſembly in the name of the ſaid *Margaret,* ſtating, " that the income " of all her eſtate was not ſufficient in its preſent circumſtances to ſupport " her, and that it was moreover charged with the payment of divers debts " due from her late uncle *Joſeph Turner,* Eſquire, by whoſe gift ſhe held " the ſame," and praying to be enabled to ſell the ſaid houſe and lot; whereupon a law was paſſed, reciting " that by a ſale of the ſaid houſe and " lot a conſiderable ſum of money would be raiſed to enable her to diſ- " charge the ſaid debts, and an annuity during the lives of her and her " ſaid huſband would be reſerved, whereby their income would be ſo en- " creaſed as to render their circumſtances and ſituation eaſy for their lives," and enabling her and her ſaid huſband, with the truſtees, to ſell and convey the ſaid houſe and lot, which was ſoon afterwards done for the price of *one thouſand five hundred pounds,* and an annuity of *four hundred pounds per annum* during their joint lives, and the life of the ſurvivor of them; that notwithſtanding what is ſtated in the ſaid petition (and which Mrs. *Smythe,* from the information which ſhe had received, had at that time reaſon to believe was true) a ſale of the ſaid houſe and lot was not neceſſary for the payment of the debts of the ſaid *Joſeph Turner,* which were but inconſiderable, and it appears not only by other evidence, but by the confeſſion of all the parties, that he left perſonal eſtate more than ſufficient to diſcharge them, and that they had actually been diſcharged before the preſenting of the ſaid petition.

" In order to form a judgment of the neceſſity of an interpoſition by this Houſe in the manner prayed for, your committee have enquired reſpecting the eſtate of Mrs. *Smythe*, and find it to be very valuable and productive; that Mr. *Smythe* has received from it ſince their marriage in 1784 near *ſix thouſand pounds* in caſh, clear of all debts; that the rents and annuities ariſing from it (moſt of which are paid with punctuality) amount to *nine hundred pounds per annum* clear of taxes, and excluſive of ſome valualuable parts thereof, of which your committee have received no particular account.

" In addition to this, the advances which have been made towards defeating the original intention of Mrs. *Smythe*, as declared in the firſt and ſecond articles, have been very great, for

" 1. The perſonal eſtate, which was effectually ſecured by the original articles, is now at the abſolute diſpoſal of Mr. *Smythe*.

" 2. The ſaid Houſe and lot, which were originally ſettled in truſt for ſuch uſes as Mrs. *Smythe* ſhould direct by her laſt will, and could not be diſpoſed of in any other manner, were firſt mortgaged, to be redeemed by a ſale of the *Jerſey* eſtate, and to remain according to the original ſettlement, have ſince been ſold in fee, under an act of the legiſlature, and the truſts thereof entirely defeated.

" 3. The *Jerſey* eſtate of Mrs. *Smythe*, which, by her own account, has been eſtimated at *ſix* or *ſeven thouſand pounds* value, was at firſt ſettled in ſuch manner as that it could only be diſpoſed of by her laſt will, and in no other way. After the marriage an alteration took place, by which it might be ſold to redeem mortgages on the ſaid houſe and lot to the amount of *three thouſand pounds*, and as they have ſince been ſold by the authority of the legiſlature, the whole of that valuable eſtate may at any time be ſold, and the monies diſpoſed as Mrs. *Smythe* ſhall think proper, and contrary to the original intention.

" 4. *Wilton* plantation, which is now under leaſe for *three hundred and ninety-two pounds ten ſhillings per annum* clear of taxes, and which is the only remaining part of Mrs. *Smythe*'s eſtate, real or perſonal, that is not freed from the uſes declared by the firſt and ſecond ſettlements, and which can only be diſpoſed of by Mrs. *Smythe*'s will, ſhe and her huſband have contracted for the ſale of. Should they be enabled to compleat this, the firſt and ſecond ſettlements will be nearly defeated, and may be altogether ſo. As your committee can ſee no neceſſity for this, as they believe it to be altogether unprecedented in any court of chancery or legiſlative body, and as it would be eſtabliſhing a very dangerous precedent, they offer the following reſolution, *to wit*,

" *Reſolved*, That *Margaret Smythe* have leave to withdraw her petition."

Which ſaid report was made and read in this Houſe on the 27th day of *March* laſt, and ordered to lie on the table. And whereas a rule of this Houſe, that all reports of committees ſhall be entered at full length on the minutes of the Houſe was in this particular inſtance diſpenſed with, by the conſent of the Houſe, on its being unanimouſly declared that the ſaid report ſhould be placed on the files, and be and remain among the papers thereof, and the ſaid *Margaret Smythe* thereupon had leave to withdraw her ſaid petition. And whereas it is right and proper that the ſaid report ſhould be preſerved,

ſerved, and in order that the ſame may be effectually done, it is neceſſary that it ſhould be entered on the minutes of this Houſe: Therefore

Reſolved, That the report of a committee of this Houſe at the laſt ſeſſion, on the petition of *Margaret Smythe*, be entered on the minutes of this Houſe among thoſe of the preſent ſeſſion.

On motion of Mr. *Robinſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot*,

Ordered, That the conſideration of the above motion be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to remedy the defects of an act, entituled* " A Supplement to an " act, entituled " *An Act more effectually to prevent unfair practices in the* " *packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to regulate the exportation of* " *flax-ſeed, butter and biſcuit in kegs.*"

An ACT *to repeal certain parts of an act, entituled* " An Act for in- " corporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county " of *Cheſter.*"

An ACT *to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of meadow land, ſituate in the precinct of* Richmond, *in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties, *to keep the bank, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair.*"

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 25, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſquire, Judge of the Admiralty for this ſtate, was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met*,

The PETITION of FRANCIS HOPKINSON, Judge of Admiralty for the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*,

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT your petitioner's ſalary as Judge aforeſaid hath been paid to him in the paper currency of the ſtate, in all ſtages of its depreciation; and as he underſtands that your Honorable Houſe hath been graciouſly pleaſed to allow the Honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court to inſtitute ſuits at law againſt the commonwealth, for recovery of the damages they have ſuffered by depreciation in the payment of their ſalaries, he humbly prays that the ſame indulgence, the ſame juſtice, may be extended to him alſo, and that he may obtain leave to inſtitute a like ſuit, for the ſame equitable purpoſe.

And your petitioner, &c. &c. &c.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON.

Philadelphia, September 25, 1789.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of claims made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of claims, on the petitions of *Blackall William Ball, Peter Phelen* and *William Clingan*, report——

That on conſidering this ſubject they are of opinion, that in all probability there will be ſeveral applications made for relief in caſes ſimilar to thoſe of the preſent petitioners; it is our opinion that a general law ought to be made to relieve ſuch perſons as have loſt certificates of this ſtate, under proper regulations and reſtrictions. Your committee therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to give relief to ſuch perſons as have *bona fide* loſt certificates of this ſtate, ſuch perſons making proof, and giving ſuch ſecurities, as may by ſaid law be directed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 16th laſt, on the petition of *William Haſſell,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *William Haſſell,* ſubmit the following reſolution to the conſideration of the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of *William Haſſell,* with the ſeveral papers reſpecting the ſame, be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next General Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt, on the petition of *Lewis Prahl,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Lewis Prahl,* ſubmit the following reſolution to the conſideration of the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of *Lewis Prahl* be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 10th, on the petition of *John* and *Joſhua Elder,* and others, deputy ſurveyors, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *Daniel Leet, Joſhua* and *John Elder,* and *Samuel Jones,* deputy ſurveyors of the depreciation lands (having taken into conſideration their ſeveral petitions) are of opinion the above petitioners, and other ſurveyors in ſimilar circumſtances, ought to be paid for their ſervices, more eſpecially as they have been obliged to lay out conſiderable ſums of money in performing the aforeſaid public ſervice, for which expenditures they have not been reimburſed, as the ſales of the lands (out of which they were to have been paid) have been poſtponed by the authority of the ſtate: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to provide for the payment of the different deputy ſurveyors of the depreciation lands of this ſtate, out of the monies appropriated for the payment of claims on this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the Houſe, the committee of accounts made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the accounts of *Robert Smith, George Schloſſer,* and the late *Rowland Evans,* Truſtees of the loan-office, reſpecting the *fifty thouſand pounds* emitted on loan agreeably to act of General Aſſembly, paſſed *April* 4th, 1785, and find——

That ſince the laſt ſettlement by the committee of accounts, on the 29th *February*, 1788, the Truſtees have received of the ſeveral mortgagees in the general loan-office, on or before the 31ſt of *Auguſt*, 1789, on account of principal received on ſixty-five mortgages, and for the quotas due on ſix hundred and thirty-five, reſidue unpaid, £ 11,526 7 11, which ſum has been paid to *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer.

That there is a balance of principal due on ſix hundred and thirty-one mortgages, £ 35,838 11 11.

That the ſaid Truſtees have received, on account of intereſt ariſing from the mortgages, and ſince the laſt ſettlement on the 29th of *February*, 1788, to the 31ſt of *Auguſt*, 1789, the ſum of	£ 3,498	9	4 1-2
Out of which ſum they have paid, on account of the expences of the loan-office, including the ſalaries due to the Truſtees and Clerks, until the firſt inſtant,	£ 1,033	16	5 1-2
And that they have paid the balance of the intereſt to *David Rittenhouſe*, - -	2,464	12	11
	£ 3,498	9	4 1-2

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to appropriate the ſum of* five thouſand pounds *annually, for the purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act further to continue an act, entituled* "An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Dowell* have leave of abſence.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for dividing the county of* Cheſter, *and to erect part thereof into a ſeparate county*," was read the third time:

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs?*"—

It was moved by Mr. *Moore*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*,

To poſtpone the conſideration thereof.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Thomas*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
2 *John Chapman*,
3 *Samuel Foulke*,
4 *Richard Thomas*,

YEAS.

5 *James Moore*,
6 *Mark Wilcox*,
7 *John M'Dowell*,
8 *Caleb James*,

YEAS.

9 *Richard Downing*, jun.
10 *Jacob Erb*,
11 *Michael Schmyſer*,
12 *Joſeph Read*,
13 *David Mitchell*,
14 *Thomas Beale*,
15 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
16 *Peter Trexler*, jun.

YEAS.

17 *Jacob Saylor*,
18 *John White*,
19 *James Barr*,
20 *William Todd*,
21 *Peter Richards*,
22 *Jonathan Roberts*,
23 *Adam Orth*.

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William M‘Pherſon*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *James Cunningham*,
9 *Henry Dering*,
10 *Thomas Clingan*,
11 *Henry Tyſon*,
12 *Thomas Kennedy*,
13 *Jonathan Hoge*,
14 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
15 *Joſeph Sands*,
16 *Daniel Brodhead*,
17 *John Ludwig*,

NAYS.

18 *Peter Ealer*,
19 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
20 *Stephen Balliot*,
21 *John Piper*,
22 *John Irwin*,
23 *James Alliſon*,
24 *John Nevil*,
25 *Alexander Wright*,
26 *John Gilchreeſt*,
27 *James M‘Lene*,
28 *James Johnſon*,
29 *Jacob Reiff*,
30 *Jacob Miley*,
31 *John Carſon*,
32 *Obadiah Gore*,
33 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was carried in the negative.

And the bill having been thereupon fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *September* 26, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the excluſive right* "*and privilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines, machines and de*"*vices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years therein mentioned,*" and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for dividing the county of* Cheſter, *and to* "*erect a part thereof into a ſeparate county,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion of Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter of wills and Recorder of deeds for the county of *Delaware*, and that it be the order for that day.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Delaware* was read, praying that in the appointment of officers for ſaid county this Houſe may make choice of the inhabitants thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Hugh Dehaven*, *Miles M'Carty*, *Eliſha Price* and *John Horn* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Delaware*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an Act, entituled* " An Act for " raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defray- " ing the expence of erecting a Common-Hall in the city of *Philadelphia*, " and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of *Dickinſon* College, in the bo- " rough of *Carliſle*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of* Robert Roſs *and* Francis " White," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act further to continue an act, entituled* " An " Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act empowering* Mary Pine *to diſpoſe, by way* " *of lottery, of a certain lot and the buildings thereon erected, together with a* " *collection of paintings and prints, lately the property of her deceaſed huſband,* " Robert Edge Pine," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſquire, the* " *excluſive right and privilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines, ma-* " *chines and devices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years therein* " *mentioned*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act relating to drawbacks and diſcounts*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act further to continue an act, entituled* " An " Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be enacted into a law ?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Lewis,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *Lawrence Sickle,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *William M‘Pherſon,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
7 *John Chapman,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Mark Wilcox,*
12 *Alexander Lowrey,*
13 *James Cunningham,*
14 *Jacob Erb,*
15 *Henry Dering,*

YEAS.

16 *Thomas Clingan,*
17 *Michael Schmyſer,*
18 *Henry Tyſon,*
19 *Joſeph Read,*
20 *Jonathan Hoge,*
21 *Daniel Brodhead,*
22 *Peter Ealer,*
23 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
24 *Jacob Saylor,*
25 *John White,*
26 *John Nevil,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *John Carſon,*
29 *Obadiah Gore,*
30 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Richard Downing,* jun.
3 *David Mitchell,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *Thomas Beale,*
6 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
7 *Joſeph Sands,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
10 *Stephen Balliot,*

NAYS.

11 *John Piper,*
12 *James Barr,*
13 *John Irwin,*
14 *William Todd,*
15 *James Alliſon,*
16 *John Gilchreeſt,*
17 *James M‘Lene,*
18 *Jacob Reiff,*
19 *Jonathan Roberts,*
20 *Adam Orth.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The report read *September* 12th, on the petition of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of *York* county, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution ?*” *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of *York* county, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county, be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

It was carried in the negative.

On motion,

Ordered, That the petitions of the ſeveral deputy ſurveyors of the depreciation lands be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

Adjourned until half paſt three o’clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *William Richardſon Atlee*, *Jonathan Smith*, and *James Withy*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Delaware*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to appropriate the ſum of* five thouſand pounds "*annually, for the purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, September 28, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Jacob Weitzell*, *John Jarman* and *Robert Johnſton*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and Recorder of deeds for the county of *Delaware*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Commiſſioners and Treaſurer of *Huntingdon* county was read, ſetting forth, that for ſeveral years before the diviſion of the county of *Bedford* conſiderable ſums of money were aſſeſſed upon the inhabitants thereof, for county rates and levies, as well as large ſums of money paid into the county treaſury on account of ſtrayed horſes, and praying an act may be paſſed, enabling the Commiſſioners of *Huntingdon* county to ſettle with and receive their proportion of the balance remaining in the hands of the Treaſurer of *Bedford* county, collected as aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th, on the petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee on the memorial of *Bartholomew Van Heer*, late a Captain in the regiment of artillery raiſed by this ſtate, praying for a part of the donation lands ſet apart for the officers and ſoldiers of the late line of this commonwealth, deem it reaſonable and juſt to grant him the prayer of his memorial and petition, and therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the memorial and petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer* be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly.

The committee appointed *September* 1ſt, on the petition of *William Lyon*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the petition of *William Lyon*, Eſquire, was referred, report——

That it appears to them that the houſe in which the ſaid *William Lyon*, Eſquire, dwelt, and kept his offices as Regiſter, Recorder and Prothonotary for the county of *Cumberland*, caught fire in the night time, and was entirely conſumed, together with the moſt of his furniture and cloathing of the family. That during the continuance of the flames the petitioner employed himſelf ſolely in preſerving the papers and records belonging to his offices, thereby neglecting and abandoning to deſtruction his own perſonal property, the moſt of which he could probably have preſerved by conducting himſelf in a more ſelfiſh manner.

Your committee are of opinion the exertions of individuals for the general benefit ſhould not operate to their private injury, and therefore recommend the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe, an act ſhould paſs to exonerate *William Lyon,* Eſquire, from the payment of the tax upon writs for the four laſt terms of the Court of Common Pleas for *Cumberland* county, and to exempt from taxation for the four next terms all writs iſſuing from the Common Pleas of *Cumberland* county aforeſaid, provided the ſaid *William Lyon* ſhall ſo long continue Prothonotary of the ſaid court.

Reſolved, That all papers relating to the application of *William Lyon,* Eſquire, to this Houſe, be ſpecially recommended to the attention of the next General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe, the ſaid *William Lyon* ſhall not be called upon for any money due or which may become due to this commonwealth, as a tax on writs, until the end of the next ſeſſion of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Delaware,* and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *William Richardſon Atlee,* Eſq; was duly elected.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to cede to and veſt in the United States the* "*light-houſe at* Cape Henlopen, *and all the beacons, buoys and public piers,* "*together with the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, and together with* "*the juriſdiction of the ſame,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the boundary line be*"*tween this ſtate and the ſtate of* New-York," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion,

Reſolved, That one hundred copies of the act, entituled "*An Act further* "*to continue an act, entituled* "An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-"payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," be printed, in order to be diſtributed for the information of the citizens of this ſtate.

The bill, entituled "*An Act concerning election diſtricts within the counties* "*of* Bedford *and* Mifflin," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act empowering* Mary Pine *to diſpoſe of, by way* "*of lottery, a certain lot and the buildings thereon erected, together with a col*"*lection of paintings and prints, lately the property of her deceaſed huſband,* "Robert Edge Pine," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The petition of *Francis Hopkinſon,* Eſquire, read *September* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.*

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Robinſon,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
3 *John Chapman,*
4 *Samuel Foulke,*
5 *Richard Thomas,*
6 *Caleb James,*
7 *Richard Downing,* jun.
8 *Alexander Lowrey,*
9 *James Cunningham,*
10 *Jacob Erb,*
11 *Michael Schmyſer,*
12 *Henry Tyſon,*
13 *Joſeph Read,*
14 *David Mitchell,*
15 *Thomas Kennedy,*
16 *Thomas Beale,*
17 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
18 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
19 *Joſeph Sands,*
20 *John Ludwig,*

YEAS.

21 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
22 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
23 *Jacob Saylor,*
24 *John Piper,*
25 *John White,*
26 *James Barr,*
27 *John Irwin,*
28 *William Todd,*
29 *James Alliſon,*
30 *Alexander Wright,*
31 *John Gilchreeſt,*
32 *James M'Lene,*
33 *James Johnſton,*
34 *Jacob Reiff,*
35 *Peter Richards,*
36 *Jonathan Roberts,*
37 *Jacob Miley,*
38 *Adam Orth,*
39 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *Lawrence Sickle,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *James Moore,*
6 *Henry Dering,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*

NAYS.

8 *Daniel Brodhead,*
9 *Peter Ealer,*
10 *Stephen Balliot,*
11 *John Nevil,*
12 *John Carſon,*
13 *Obadiah Gore.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report, That there is due to *Joſeph Lyon,* for going expreſs to *New-York,* the ſum of *ſeven pounds and ten ſhillings;* therefore offer the following reſolution, *Reſolved,* That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of the ſaid *Joſeph Lyon,* for the ſum of *ſeven pounds and ten ſhillings,* in full of his account.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the inſpection of pot and pearl aſhes, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to take into conſideration that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council, recommending the eſtabliſhment of an inſpection on pot and pearl aſhes, report——

That from preſent appearances pot and pearl aſhes will probably hereafter form a conſiderable branch of export from this ſtate, and will therefore require the eſtabliſhment of an inſpection to fix a ſtandard of quality, which may be known abroad, and to prevent deceptions in the ſale thereof. The committee therefore ſubmit a reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the next General Aſſembly, to take into their conſideration the propriety of paſſing an act to regulate the export of pot and pearl aſhes from this ſtate.

The report on the petition of *Lewis Phral,* read *September* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition of *Lewis Phral* be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next Houſe of Aſſembly.

The report on the petition of *William Haſſell,* read *September* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition of *William Haſſell,* with the ſeveral papers reſpecting the ſame, be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the next General Aſſembly.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*enable the land-officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein de-*"*ſcribed;*" and after ſome debate,

It was, on motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

Ordered, That it be ſpecially recommended to the early attention of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *in favor of* John Houſton.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral laws of this commonwealth reſpecting attachments.*

An ACT *for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſq; the excluſive right and privilege of making and vending divers engines, machines and devices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to appropriate the ſum of* five thouſand pounds *annually, for the purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer for an additional ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing of the* Indians *lands on* Lake Erie.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 29, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the repairs of *Mud-Iſland,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of his Excellency the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to the repairs of *Mud-Iſland,* in the river *Delaware,* with inſtructions to confer with the Supreme Executive Council thereon, report——

That having carefully attended to the buſineſs referred to them, and conferred with a committee of Council thereon, they find that *Mud-Iſland,* in the river *Delaware,* conſiſts of about thirty acres of valuable embanked meadow, with a dwelling-houſe, and alſo a ſtrong fort in a defenſible ſituation, affording great ſecurity to this commonwealth, erected thereon; that the banks of the ſaid meadow being in a decayed ſtate, the Preſident and Council have, in order to prevent their going to ruin, expended *four hundred and ninety-ſix pounds eight ſhillings and three-pence,* by draughts on the treaſury, towards the repairs thereof, without any expreſs appropriation having been made by law for that purpoſe; that a ſurvey having been made, and an eſtimate taken, it appears that the further ſum of *five hundred pounds* is required to compleat the ſaid repairs in a thorough and permanent manner, and that by expending a ſmall part thereof at preſent, further damage by inundations may be prevented, until the finances of this commonwealth will better admit of compleating the ſaid repairs in manner aforeſaid; and as the preſervation of the ſaid iſland and fort appears to be a very deſirable object, your committee ſubmit the following reſolutions to the conſideration of the Houſe, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to cauſe ſuch repairs to be made at *Mud-Iſland,* and in the banks thereof, as ſhall be deemed neceſſary to prevent further damage therein by inundations or otherwiſe, until further proviſion ſhall be made for the thorough and effectual repairs thereof, and to draw for the amount of ſuch repairs on the treaſury of this ſtate, out of any of the monies which are not ſpecially appropriated to other purpoſes.

Reſolved, That it be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly, to provide by law for the indemnification of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council in the repairs which they have cauſed to be made at *Mud-Iſland,* and in the expending of monies therein, and alſo in ſuch repairs and expenditures as they ſhall cauſe to be made in purſuance of the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for founding and endowing a public ſchool in* "*the town and county of* Huntingdon," was read the third time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be conſidered by paragraphs?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *M'Lene,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Lewis,*

YEAS.
3 *William Robinſon,* jun.
4 *John Chapman,*

YEAS.

5 *Richard Thomas,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *Henry Dering,*
8 *Michael Schmyſer,*
9 *Thomas Kennedy,*
10 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
11 *Daniel Brodhead,*
12 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
13 *Stephen Balliot,*
14 *James Barr,*
15 *John Irwin,*
16 *John Nevil,*
17 *John Carſon,*
18 *Obadiah Gore,*
19 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
2 *Mark Wilcox,*
3 *Caleb James,*
4 *Richard Downing,* jun.
5 *Alexander Lowrey,*
6 *Jacob Erb,*
7 *Henry Tyſon,*
8 *Joſeph Read,*
9 *David Mitchell,*
10 *Thomas Beale,*
11 *Jonathan Hoge,*
12 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
13 *Joſeph Sands,*
14 *John Ludwig,*
15 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
16 *Peter Ealer,*
17 *Jacob Saylor,*
18 *John Piper,*
19 *William Todd,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *John Gilchreeſt,*
22 *James M'Lene,*
23 *James Johnſon,*
24 *Jacob Reiff,*
25 *Peter Richards,*
26 *Jonathan Roberts.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate fences, and to aſcertain a mode* "*of proceeding with treſpaſſing cattle,*" was read the third time.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs?*"—

It was, on motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That it be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The report on the petition of *William Lyon*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe an act ſhould paſs to exonerate *William Lyon*, Eſquire, from the payment of the tax upon writs for the four laſt terms of the court of Common Pleas for *Cumberland* county, and to exempt from taxation for the four next terms all writs iſſuing from the Common Pleas of *Cumberland* county aforeſaid; provided the ſaid *William Lyon* ſhall ſo long continue Prothonotary of the ſaid county.

Reſolved, That all papers relating to the application of *William Lyon*, Eſq; to this Houſe, be ſpecially recommended to the attention of the next General Aſſembly.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*, in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That in the opinion of this Houſe the ſaid *William Lyon* ſhall not be called upon for any money due, or which may become due to this commonwealth, as a tax on writs, until the end of the next ſitting of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Robinſon*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Jonathan Hoge,*
5 *Joſeph Sands,*
6 *John Piper,*
7 *James Barr,*
8 *John Irwin,*
9 *Alexander Wright,*
10 *James M'Lene,*
11 *James Johnſton,*
12 *Adam Orth,*
13 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *Lawrence Sickle,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
7 *John Chapman,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Mark Wilcox,*
12 *Caleb James,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *Alexander Lowrey,*
15 *James Cunningham,*
16 *Jacob Erb,*
17 *Henry Dering,*
18 *Thomas Clingan,*
19 *Michael Schmyſer,*
20 *Henry Tyſon,*
21 *Joſeph Read,*
22 *David Mitchell,*
23 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
24 *Daniel Brodhead,*
25 *John Ludwig,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Peter Ealer,*
28 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
29 *Stephen Balliot,*
30 *Jacob Saylor,*
31 *John White,*
32 *William Todd,*
33 *John Nevil,*
34 *John Gilchreeſt,*
35 *Jacob Reiff,*
36 *Peter Richards,*
37 *Jonathan Roberts,*
38 *Obadiah Gore,*
39 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

On motion,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *September* 24th, to bring in a bill to divide the public taxes, by annual inſtallments, laid and aſſeſſed within the townſhip of *Peters,* in the county of *Franklin,* for the year 1782, be diſcharged, and that the petition, together with the report thereon, be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

A tranſcript of the aſſeſſments on the perſons and taxable property within the county of *Northampton,* for the year 1789, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Edward Stiles,* read *September* 24th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Edward Stiles,* for *nine hundred and ſixty-ſeven pounds ſixteen ſhillings and eleven pence,* payable out of the fund ſet apart by "*An Act to appropriate divers funds, accruing and growing due to this commonwealth, towards the payment of the expences of government, and to provide a fund for other purpoſes,*" in full ſatisfaction of his claims againſt this commonwealth, as ſtated in his petition.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Orth* have leave of abſence.

The bill, entituled "*An Act relating to drawbacks and diſcounts*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Robinſon*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Lawrence Sickle*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *John Salter*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *Henry Dering*,
7 *Jonathan Hoge*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *Daniel Brodhead*,
11 *Peter Ealer*,
12 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
13 *Stephen Balliot*,

YEAS.

14 *Jacob Saylor*,
15 *John Piper*,
16 *John White*,
17 *James Barr*,
18 *John Irwin*,
19 *William Todd*,
20 *John Nevil*,
21 *Peter Richards*,
22 *Adam Orth*,
23 *John Carſon*,
24 *Obadiah Gore*,
25 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
3 *John Chapman*,
4 *Samuel Foulke*,
5 *Richard Thomas*,
6 *James Moore*,
7 *Mark Wilcox*,
8 *Caleb James*,
9 *Richard Downing*, jun.
10 *James Cunningham*,
11 *Jacob Erb*,
12 *Michael Schmyſer*,

NAYS.

13 *Henry Tyſon*,
14 *David Mitchell*,
15 *Thomas Kennedy*,
16 *Thomas Beale*,
17 *John Ludwig*,
18 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,
21 *James M‘Lene*,
22 *Jacob Reiff*,
23 *Jonathan Roberts*.

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for incorporating the Society formed for the relief of diſtreſſed and decayed Pilots, their widows and children.*

An ACT *for the inſpection of ſhingles.*

An ACT *to provide for the payment of the demands of* Joſeph Perkins, Abraham Morrow *and* John Nicholſon, *upon this commonwealth.*

An ACT *relating to Sheriffs and Coroners.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an Act, entituled* "An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the expence of erecting a Common-Hall in the city of *Philadelphia*, and Two Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of *Dickinſon* College, in the borough of *Carliſle*.

An ACT *relating to ſeveral election diſtricts in the counties of* Bedford *and* Mifflin.

An ACT *to cede to and veſt in the United States the light-houſe at* Cape-Henlopen, *and all the beacons, buoys and public piers, together with the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, and together with the juriſdiction of the ſame.*

An ACT *for the relief of* Robert Roſs *and* Francis White.

An ACT *for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation worſhipping at the church called St.* Peter's, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

An ACT *to eſtabliſh and confirm the boundary line between this ſtate and the ſtate of* New-York.

An ACT *for regulating certain election diſtricts in the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Allegheny.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 30, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of this ſtate was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September 30th,* 1789.

SIR,

I DO myſelf the honor of tranſmitting to you, for the information of the General Aſſembly, the acts of Congreſs under mentioned, *viz.*

An Act for allowing compenſation to the members of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, and to the officers of both Houſes.

An Act for the temporary eſtabliſhment of the Poſt-Office.

An Act for allowing certain compenſation to the Judges of the Supreme and other Courts, and to the Attorney-General of the United States.

An Act for eſtabliſhing the ſalaries of the Executive Officers of government, with their Aſſiſtants and Clerks.

An Act to provide for the ſafe keeping of the acts, records, and ſeal of the United States, and for other purpoſes.

An Act to ſuſpend part of an act, entituled " An Act to regulate the collection of the duties impoſed by law on the tonnage of ſhips or veſſels, " and on goods, wares and merchandizes imported into the United States, " and for other purpoſes."

An Act for allowing a compenſation to the Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.

A Reſolution, making it the duty of the Secretary of State to procure, from time to time, ſuch of the ſtatutes of the ſeveral ſtates as may not be in his office; and

A Reſolution to provide for the ſafe keeping of ſuch priſoners as may be committed, under the authority of the United States, to the gaols of the ſeveral ſtates. *I have the honor to be, SIR,*

With great reſpect,

Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the encloſed papers were alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Remonſtrances and petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *York* county were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo much of an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, as prohibits dramatic entertainments within the city of* Philadelphia, *and the neighbourhood thereof,*" and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 2d, on the memorial of the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial from the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia*, report——

That having deliberately conſidered the act, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia," they are not able to find any of thoſe difficulties in the conſtruction thereof, which are ſuggeſted in the memorial, but, on the contrary, think that nothing is wanting to come at the true interpretation of thoſe ſections, whoſe meaning is ſaid to be ambiguous, but a candid peruſal of them. On the city being incorporated, on the plan and principles contained in the act for that purpoſe made, it became neceſſary to take away all the powers of the City Wardens and Street Commiſſioners, to provide that no ſuch officers ſhould be choſen in future, and to veſt the right of executing the acts which had given thoſe powers in a different body. For theſe purpoſes the 34th ſection of the act was introduced, the evident meaning whereof is to effect the ſaid purpoſes, and not to repeal any other parts of the acts referred to in the ſaid ſection, than ſuch as authorized the electing or chooſing of City Wardens and Street Commiſſioners, or as veſted any powers in *them* to execute the ſaid acts, or any part thereof. This appears, not only from the wording of the ſaid ſection, but is manifeſt from what follows in the 35th and 36th ſections, which direct that the ſame acts, and the ſame powers, ſhall be executed by different perſons.

Equally free from ambiguity does the meaning of the 36th ſection appear to your committee to be.

The Juſtices of the Peace were by ſeveral acts of Aſſembly authorized to do and perform a variety of matters in conjunction with the City Wardens and Street Commiſſioners reſpectively; but as the act for incorporating the city took from the City Wardens and Street Commiſſioners all their powers, and provided that no ſuch officers ſhould be choſen in future, it was neceſſary to make proviſion for thoſe matters being done by ſome other body, without their aid, and this was effected, by enabling the Mayor or Recorder and four of the Aldermen to do, or cauſe to be done, all ſuch matters and things, as the City Wardens or Street Commiſſioners had been authorized to do in conjunction with any Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, or of either of them. Thoſe matters and things are ſo clearly and accurately defined in the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly reſpecting them, as to aſcertain with preciſion how far the powers given by the ſaid 36th ſection to the Mayor or Recorder and four of the Aldermen extend, and therefore your committee deem it unneceſſary to ſay any thing reſpecting them.

The 35th ſection of the ſaid act for incorporating the ſaid city extends to executive, and not to deliberative duties, and is evidently intended to prevent ſalaries being ſettled on, or conſtant pay being allowed to any officers to be appointed in the place and ſtead of the ſaid Wardens or Commiſſioners, to do and perform ſuch matters and things as the ſaid Wardens or Street Commiſſioners were directed to execute, after they had reſpectively determined, in conjunction with the Juſtices, that ſuch matters and things ſhould be done. Hence it is, that the ſaid act directs that a ſufficient number of Aldermen and Common Councilmen ſhould be elected and kept up, to perform and execute (without the expence of fixed officers on conſtant pay) ſuch things, unleſs on ſome ſpecial occaſions, when it might be inconvenient, as ſhould be directed to be done in purſuance of the 36th ſection. This appears, not only from a compariſon of the ſaid three ſections with each other, but more clearly from the words, " in Common Council aſſembled," being purpoſely omitted in the 35th ſection, which is not the caſe in any part of the act which gives a power to any " Common Council aſſembled" to do any matter or thing whatever.

Nor does it appear to your committee that any thing contained in the proviſo of the 36th ſection is at all oppoſed to this conſtruction. The Mayor, or Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council-men, in Common Council aſſembled, are, by the ſaid incorporating act, authorized to make and ordain ſuch laws, ordinances, regulations and conſtitutions *(provided the ſame ſhall not be repugnant to the laws and conſtitution of this commonwealth)* as ſhall be neceſſary and convenient for the government and welfare of the ſaid city; and as the ſeveral matters in the ſaid ſections mentioned might require bye-laws (ſubject to the reſtriction aforeſaid) to be made, for the better regulation thereof, the ſaid proviſo was properly inſerted, and the words of it are fully anſwered, without being extended ſo far as to oppoſe any exiſting laws. A more extenſive meaning, if given to the ſaid proviſo, will not only be againſt the expreſs direction of other parts of the ſaid act, which in a clear and unambiguous manner gives to the Mayor, or Recorder, and four of the Aldermen, certain powers and authorities, entirely inconſiſtent with ſuch a conſtruction, but, if admitted, it will be giving to the Mayor, or Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council-men, in Common Council aſſembled, a power, by their ordinances, to repeal or alter, in a variety of inſtances, the exiſting laws of the land; and as this would be directly contrary to the 16th ſection of the ſaid incorporating act, as well as dangerous in itſelf and entrenching upon the rights of the legiſlature, ſuch a conſtruction muſt be altogether inadmiſſible.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *to wit.*

Reſolved, That the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia* have leave to withdraw their memorial.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia* have leave to withdraw their memorial.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to the following perſons, for printing, *&c.*

To *Eleazer Oſwald, fifty pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and two pence,* for printing, and for the *Independent Gazetter.*

To *Thomas Bradford,* for publiſhing and printing the laws, *&c.* from the firſt day of *April,* 1789, to the twenty-third day of *September* inſtant, *two hundred and fifteen pounds ſeventeen ſhillings.*

To *Michael Billmeyer*, for printing the minutes of the ſecond ſeſſion in the *German* language, *one hundred and thirty-ſix pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *Hall* and *Sellers*, for printing the minutes of this Houſe, *one hundred pounds*, on account.

To *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for a balance due to him on account of ſundry contingent expences for the legiſlature, *ten pounds thirteen ſhillings and one penny.*

To *Melchior Steiner*, *ſeven pounds eleven ſhillings and ten pence.*

Therefore, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer,

In favor of *Eleazer Oſwald*, for the ſum of *fifty pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and two pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Thomas Bradford*, for the ſum of *two hundred and fifteen pounds ſeventeen ſhillings.*

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, for the ſum of *one hundred and thirty-ſix pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Melchior Steiner*, for *ſeven pounds eleven ſhillings and ten pence.*

In favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, for the ſum of *one hundred pounds.*

In favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for the ſum of *ten pounds thirteen ſhillings and one penny.*

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the buſineſs of this Houſe will require the cloſe attention of the Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk, in perfecting the minutes and inſpecting the preſſes, until the meeting of the next General Aſſembly, and the conſtitution provides, that every perſon called into public ſervice has a right to a reaſonable compenſation: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd* and *Jacob Shallus*, for the ſum of *ſixty-nine pounds*, reſpectively, in full of their pay during the preſent ſeſſion, as well as their *extra* ſervices aforeſaid.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *James Martin*, Sergeant-at-Arms, and *Joſeph Fry*, Door-keeper, reſpectively, for the ſum of *fifteen pounds* each, for their *extra* ſervices.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Clerk of this Houſe, for the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, to defray contingent expences, for which he ſhall account with the committee of accounts to be nominated by the next Houſe.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act for the appointment " of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this " ſtate."

An ACT *for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation worſhipping at the church called* Zion, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the county of* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof.*

II. *An* ACT *to alter the times of holding the Courts of General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace and Gaol Delivery in the ſeveral counties within this commonwealth.*

III. *An* ACT *to divide the county of* Luzerne *into election diſtricts.*

IV. *An* ACT *for ſeparating* Newberry *townſhip, in the county of* York, *from the fifth, and annexing the ſame to the firſt election diſtrict of that county, and to enable the freemen of* Manahan, Warrington, Huntingdon *and* Reading *townſhips, to hold their general elections at the houſe of* William Butt.

V. *An* ACT *to grant and ſecure to* Robert Leſlie, *for a limited time, the ſole and excluſive right and benefit of conſtructing, making and ſelling, within this commonwealth, the improvements by him lately invented on clocks and watches.*

VI. *An* ACT *to erect* Wyoming *townſhip, and that part of* Catawiſſey *and* Mahoning *townſhips herein after deſcribed, in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate election diſtrict.*

VII. *An* ACT *to authoriſe* George Frey, *of* Middletown, *in the county of* Dauphin, *to ſupport a mill-dam acroſs* Sweetara *creek, and to oblige him to maintain a free navigation for boats and other craft along his mill-race, into his mill-dam.*

VIII. *An* ACT *for the relief of* James Pettigrew, *an inſolvent debtor in the county of* Northampton, *confined in the gaol of ſaid county.*

IX. *A further* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act to pre-
" vent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for repeal-
" ing at a certain time all the laws heretofore made for that purpoſe.

X. *An* ACT *to cede to the United States the right to exerciſe excluſive legiſlation over ſuch diſtrict as may become the ſeat of government thereof, within this commonwealth.*

XI. *An* ACT *for annexing part of the county of* Waſhington *to the county of* Allegheny.

XII. *An* ACT *for erecting certain parts of* Cumberland *and* Northumberland *counties into a ſeparate county.*

XIII. *An* ACT *to divide the county of* Berks *into election diſtricts.*

XIV. *An* ACT *for erecting the town of* Eaſton, *in the county of* Northampton, *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XV. *An* ACT *to grant to the corporation of the Miniſter, Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the* German *Reformed Congregation in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *certain lands therein mentioned, for endowing a free ſchool, for the uſe of the poor of the ſaid congregation.*

XVI. *An* ACT *to remedy the defects of an act, entituled* " A Supplement
" to an act, entituled " *An Act more effectually to prevent unfair practices in*
" *the packing of beef and pork for exportation, and to regulate the exportation*
" *of flax-ſeed, butter and biſcuit in kegs.*"

XVII. *An* ACT *to repeal certain parts of an act, entituled* " An Act
" for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the
" county of *Cheſter.*"

XVIII. *An* ACT *to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of meadow land, ſituate in the precinct of* Richmond, *in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties, *to keep the bank, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair.*"

XIX. *An* ACT *for dividing the county of* Cheſter, *and to erect part thereof into a ſeparate county.*

XX. *An* ACT *further to continue an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend " the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes there- " in mentioned."

XXI. *An* ACT *empowering* Mary Pine *to diſpoſe of, by way of lottery, a certain lot and the buildings thereon erected, together with a collection of paintings and prints, lately the property of her deceaſed huſband,* Robert Edge Pine.

XXII. *An* ACT *in favor of* John Houſton.

XXIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral laws of this commonwealth reſpecting attachments.*

XXIV. *An* ACT *for veſting in* James Rumſey, *Eſq; the excluſive right and privilege of making, uſing and vending divers engines, machines and devices, by him invented or improved, for a term of years therein mentioned.*

XXV. *An* ACT *to appropriate the ſum of* five thouſand pounds *annually, for the purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XXVI. *An* ACT *to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer for an additional ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing of the* Indians *lands on* Lake Erie.

XXVII. *An* ACT *for incorporating the ſociety formed for the relief of diſtreſſed and decayed Pilots, their widows and children.*

XXVIII. *An* ACT *for the inſpection of ſhingles.*

XXIX. *An* ACT *to provide for the payment of the demands of* Joſeph Perkins, Abraham Morrow *and* John Nicholſon, *upon this commonwealth.*

XXX. *An* ACT *relating to Sheriffs and Coroners.*

XXXI. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an Act, entituled* " An Act for raiſing, " by way of lottery, the ſum of Eight Thouſand Dollars, for defraying the " expence of erecting a Common-Hall in the city of *Philadelphia,* and Two " Thouſand Dollars for the uſe of *Dickinſon* College, in the borough of " *Carliſle.*"

XXXII. *An* ACT *relating to drawbacks and diſcounts.*

XXXIII. *An* ACT *relating to ſeveral election diſtricts in the counties of* Bedford *and* Mifflin.

XXXIV. *An* ACT *to cede to and veſt in the United States the light-houſe at* Cape-Henlopen, *and all the beacons, buoys and public piers, together with the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, and together with the juriſdiction of the ſame.*

XXXV. *An* ACT *for the relief of* Robert Roſs *and* Francis White.

XXXVI. *An* ACT *for regulating certain election diſtricts in the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Allegheny.

XXXVII. *An* ACT *for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation worſhipping at the church called St.* Peter's, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

XXXVIII. *An* ACT *for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation worſhipping at the church called* Zion, *in* Pikeland *townſhip, in the county of* Cheſter.

XXXIX. *An* ACT *to eſtabliſh and confirm the boundary line between this ſtate and the ſtate of* New-York.

XL. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an Act, entituled* " An Act for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the ac- " counts of this ſtate."

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

On motion,

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the thanks of this Houſe be preſented to the Honorable Speaker, for his aſſiduous, able and impartial attention to the duties of his ſtation.

The Houſe then roſe, *ſine die.*

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Clerk of the General Aſſembly.*

APPENDIX.

The following paper was handed in too late to be inſerted in its proper place.

REASONS of diſſent of the Minority againſt enacting into a law the bill, entituled "An Act to cede to the United States the right to exerciſe exclusive legiſlation over ſuch diſtrict as may become the ſeat of government thereof, within this commonwealth."

1ſt. BECAUSE the enacting of a law, in violation of the deareſt and moſt eſſential rights of our fellow-citizens, without its being publiſhed as directed by the original compact, is in the higheſt degree arbitrary and unjuſt: For although a Convention, deputized by the freemen of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* have adopted the conſtitution of the United States, yet that conſtitution does not make it obligatory, but at the option of any legiſlature, to cede to Congreſs the excluſive legiſlation of ten miles ſquare: Beſides, the Convention of *Pennſylvania,* being the voice of the people, have declared that the ceſſion to Congreſs of any part of the ſtate ſhould not take place, without the conſent of the citizens reſiding within ſuch grant.

2d. Becauſe the legiſlature, inveſted by the people with a power merely of enacting laws for the government of the ſtate, conſiſtent with ſound policy and juſtice, have no right nor authority to devote any part or portion of the ſtate to a government in which the people will have no voice, and therefore, from the condition of freemen, will be degraded to the ſituation of ſlaves. In every free government it is abſolutely neceſſary that one common intereſt ſhould unite the governors and governed. Where that barrier is deſtroyed, there can be no ſafety for the people. The individual members of the general government having no intereſt within the ten miles propoſed to be under the excluſive legiſlation of Congreſs, and having only a temporary reſidence there, decrees may be enforced, unjuſt and oppreſſive to the inhabitants, without affecting the rulers.

George Logan,
John Piper,
Thomas Kennedy,
John Gilchreeſt,
James Alliſon.

PHILADELPHIA: *Printed by* HALL & SELLERS.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE FOURTEENTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on MONDAY, the
Twenty-ſixth Day of OCTOBER, in the Year of our LORD
One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS, IN MARKET-STREET.
M,DCC,LXXXIX.

MINUTES

OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE Fourteenth GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Monday, October 26, 1789. P. M.

THIS being the day appointed by the conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen, elected as Repreſentatives to ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 27, 1789. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, October 28, 1789. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Thurſday, October 29, 1789. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Friday, October 30, 1789. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, October 31, 1789. A. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 2, 1789. P. M.

A number of gentlemen ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum met; and,

On motion,

The returns of the elections held in the city of *Philadelphia,* and in the counties of *Philadelphia, Bucks, Cheſter, Lancaſter, York, Cumberland, Berks, Northampton, Bedford, Northumberland, Waſhington, Fayette, Montgomery, Dauphin, Luzerne, Allegheny* and *Delaware,* were read, by which it appeared that the following gentlemen were returned as Repreſentatives for the ſaid city and counties, reſpectively, for the enſuing year, *viz.*

For the city of PHILADELPHIA.
Lawrence Sickle,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Lewis,
William Rawle,
Francis Gurney.

For the county of PHILADELPHIA.
Richard Peters,
Samuel Aſhmead,
Thomas Paul,
Thomas Britton,
Elias Boys.

For the county of BUCKS.
Gerardus Wynkoop,
Valentine Upp,
John Chapman,
James Bryan.

For the county of CHESTER.
Richard Thomas,
Richard Downing, jun.
Caleb James,
John M'Dowell.

For the county of LANCASTER.
James Clemſon,
John Hopkins,
Henry Dering,
James Cunningham,
Jacob Erb,
John Miller.

For the county of YORK.
Thomas Clingan,
Joſeph Reed,
Jacob Schmyſer,
John Stewart,
Thomas Lilley,
William Godfrey.

For the county of CUMBERLAND.
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchell,
Jonathan Hoge.

For the county of BERKS.
John Ludwig,
Joſeph Heiſter,
Joſeph Sands,
Nicholas Lutz,
Daniel Leinbach.

For the county of NORTHAMPTON.
Peter Ealer,
Stephen Balliot,
Conrad Ihrie, jun.
Anthony Lerch, jun.

For the county of BEDFORD.
John Moore,
Harman Huſbands.

For the county of NORTHUMB^{D}.
Samuel Maclay,
John White.

For the county of WASHINGTON.
James Alliſon,
Alexander Wright,
Thomas Ryerſon,
James Marſhall.

For the county of FAYETTE.
John Gilchreeſt,
James Finley.

For the county of MONTGOMERY.
Jacob Reiff,
Jonathan Roberts,
Benjamin Markley,
James Vaux.

For the county of DAUPHIN.
Jacob Miley,
John Carſon,
James M'Creight.

For the county of LUZERNE.
Obadiah Gore.

For the county of ALLEGHENY.
John Nevil.

For the county of DELAWARE.
Hugh Lloyd,
Richard Riley.

Note. No returns have been received from the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Franklin* and *Huntingdon.*

The return from the county of *Mifflin* appearing to be double, was read, as follows, *viz.*

MIFFLIN COUNTY, ſſ.

AGREEABLE to returns this day received from the following election diſtricts in this county, *viz.* from an election held at this place, for the townſhips of *Derry, Wayne* and *Armagh*; from an election held at the houſe of *Enoch Haſtings,* for the townſhips of *Bald-Eagle* and *Potters*; and from an election held at the houſe of *Thomas Wilſon,* for the townſhips of *Fermanagh* and *Milford*; the undermentioned perſons were higheſt in votes for the offices annexed to their names:

		Votes.
For Aſſembly,	*John Oliver,* ſix hundred and eleven votes.	611
	John Harris, five hundred and twenty-five votes.	525
For Sheriff,	*William Wilſon,* four hundred and fifty-four votes.	454
	George Wilſon, four hundred and fifty-two votes.	452
For Coroner,	*John Wilſon,* five hundred and twenty-five votes.	525
	James Taylor, three hundred and eighty-eight votes.	388
For Commiſſioner,	*James Lyon,* ſix hundred and ſeventeen votes.	617
	Enoch Haſtings, nine hundred and ſeventy-ſeven votes. - - -	977
	John M'Connol, four hundred and forty-four votes. - - -	444
	Robert Lyttle, four hundred and forty-three votes. - - -	443

There was alſo received this day returns of elections held at the houſe of the Widow *Stackpole,* for the townſhip of *Lack,* and of an election for *Greenwood* townſhip, in this county, held at the houſe of *Henry M'Connol.* The legality of holding elections at theſe places being diſputed by part of the Judges, the law for authoriſing ſaid elections not being preſent, we have thought proper to forward to your Honorable Body a ſtatement of the election, both with and without the returns of theſe townſhips of *Lack* and *Greenwood.* If their election is legal, as to the places of holding ſaid elections, and their votes admitted, the perſons higheſt in votes are as follow; if not, the above is the return.

		Votes.
For Aſſembly,	*John Harris,* ſix hundred and ſixty-ſix votes.	666
	John Oliver, ſix hundred and twenty-one votes.	621
For Sheriff,	*George Wilſon,* ſix hundred and two votes.	602
	William Wilſon, four hundred and fifty-four votes.	454
For Coroner,	*John Wilſon,* five hundred and twenty-five votes.	525
	James Taylor, five hundred and thirty-two votes.	532
For Commiſſioner,	*Enoch Haſtings,* one thouſand one hundred and twenty-nine votes. - -	1129
	James Lyon, ſix hundred and ſeventeen votes.	617
	Robert Lyttle, five hundred and ninety-two votes. - - - -	592

WE, the Judges of the elections aforementioned, do certify the above and annexed ſtatement of the election in this county is juſt and true. Given under our hands and ſeals, at the houſe of *Arthur Buchanan,* in the county of *Mifflin,* this fifteenth day of *October,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine.

SAMUEL OSBORN,
WILLIAM CORBIT,
THOMAS M'ILROY,
JOSEPH ALENDER,
JOHN HENDERSON,
GEORGE BRATTEN, *jun.*

Mifflin County, ſſ.

I DO certify that a duplicate of the above and annexed return, ſigned by the Judges of the election held at the different diſtricts of this county, is lodged in my office. In teſtimony whereof I have hereunto ſet my hand and ſeal.

SAM. EDMISTON, *Prothonotary.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Lawrence Sickle,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Lewis,
William Rawle,
Francis Gurney,
Richard Peters,
Samuel Aſhmead,
Thomas Paul,
Thomas Britton,
Elias Boys,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
Valentine Upp,
John Chapman,
James Bryan,
Richard Thomas,
Caleb James,
James Clemſon,
John Hopkins,
Henry Dering,
James Cunningham,
Jacob Erb,
John Miller,
Joſeph Reed,
Jacob Schmyſer,

MEMBERS PRESENT.

John Stewart,
Thomas Lilley,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchell,
Jonathan Hoge,
John Ludwig,
Joſeph Sands,
Nicholas Lutz,
Daniel Leinbach,
Peter Ealer,
Conrad Ibrie, jun.
Anthony Lerch, jun.
John Moore,
John White,
James Alliſon,
Alexander Wright,
Thomas Ryerſon,
John Gilchreeſt,
James Finley,
Jacob Reiff,
Jonathan Roberts,
Benjamin Markley,
James Vaux,
Jacob Miley,
John Carſon,
James M‘Creight,
Obadiah Gore,
John Nevil,
Hugh Lloyd,
Richard Riley.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *RICHARD PETERS,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

Mr. Speaker being placed in the chair,

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

That the oaths or affirmations preſcribed by the conſtitution of this ſtate be taken by the members of this Houſe, reſpectively, with the words, "*except ſo far as the ſame is altered or aboliſhed by the conſtitution of the "United States,*" added to the oath or affirmation of allegiance and fidelity; and the words, "*and as the ſame is not altered or aboliſhed by the conſtitution "of the United States,*" added to the oath or affirmation of office; the ſaid exception and addition being conſidered as explanatory of the ſenſe in which members underſtand the ſaid oaths or affirmations.

And the aforeſaid motion being adopted,

Mr. Speaker and the members preſent were ſeverally qualified, according to the directions of the conſtitution, with the foregoing exception and addition, and the act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge,* in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That one Clerk of the General Aſſembly ſhall be appointed by the Houſe, at ſuch reaſonable and moderate ſalary as ſhall be deemed juſt and adequate; and that he ſhall appoint ſuch aſſiſtants under him as he ſhall deem neceſſary, who ſhall be allowed ſuch compenſation as ſhall be deemed by the Houſe ſufficient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 3, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Joſeph Fry* and *Frederick Dietz,* ſeverally praying to be appointed Door-keeper to the General Aſſembly, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Martin* was read, praying he may be appointed Serjeant-at-Arms to the General Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion made yeſterday by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge*, recurring,

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

To ſtrike out the words, " *at ſuch reaſonable and moderate ſalary*," and in lieu thereof to inſert the words, " *and ſhall have ſuch reaſonable and moderate compenſation.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution, as amended, adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That one Clerk of the General Aſſembly ſhall be appointed by the Houſe, and ſhall have ſuch reaſonable and moderate compenſation as ſhall be deemed juſt and adequate; and that he ſhall appoint ſuch aſſiſtants under him as he ſhall deem neceſſary, who ſhall be allowed ſuch compenſation as ſhall be deemed by the Houſe ſufficient. Whereupon

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *PETER Z. LLOYD*, Eſquire, was duly elected;

Who appearing at the table, was qualified to the faithful diſcharge of the duties of his office.

The Houſe then proceeded to the election of a Serjeant-at-Arms and Door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *James Martin* was duly elected Serjeant-at-Arms, and *Joſeph Fry* duly elected Door-keeper, who were ſeverally ſworn faithfully to perform their reſpective duties.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Lutz* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Ihrie* be a committee, to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the late Houſe of Aſſembly be adopted for the government of the preſent Houſe, until a ſett of rules and regulations ſhall have been reported and adopted.

The committee appointed this forenoon, to inform Council that the Houſe were ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council have prepared buſineſs, which they will lay before the Houſe this forenoon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Aſhmead*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *James*, Mr. *Cunningham*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Mitchell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Ealer*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *White*, Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Roberts*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Gore*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, to deviſe on ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

Reſolved, That Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Carſon* and Mr. *Riley* be a committee of accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be and hereby are authorized and empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to examine the laws and minutes of the Houſe, prepare them for publication, and correct them at the preſs.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Wright* be a committee, to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Vaux* be appointed to collect the fines that may be incurred, by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which are or may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Reſolved, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the election of Printers, to publiſh the laws and journals of this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Boys,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *James,* Mr. *Dering,* Mr. *Reed,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Lutz,* Mr. *Lerch,* Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Ryerſon,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt,* Mr. *Reiff,* Mr. *M'Creight,* Mr. *Gore,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Riley* be a committee, to whom all the claims of individuals againſt this ſtate ſhall be referred.

A meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE herewith tranſmit letters from his Excellency the Preſident of the United States of the 2d and 3d days of *October,* 1789, with ſeveral acts and reſolves of the Congreſs of the United States, which have been received ſince the laſt adjournment of the Legiſlature, *viz.*

An Act to eſtabliſh the Judicial Courts of the United States.

An Act to regulate the proceſs in the Courts of the United States.

An Act to explain and amend an act for regiſtering and clearing veſſels, regulating the coaſting trade, and for other purpoſes.

An Act to recognize and adapt to the conſtitution of the United States, the eſtabliſhment of troops raiſed under the reſolves of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An Act providing for the payment of the invalid penſioners of the United States.

An Act making appropriations for the preſent year.

An Act to allow the Baron de Glaubeck *the pay of a Captain in the army of the United States.*

An Act to alter the time for the next meeting of Congreſs; and

A reſolution for continuing *John White, John Wright* and *Joſhua Dawſon* in office until the 4th day of *February,* 1790. Alſo

A letter from *Alexander Hamilton,* Eſquire, Secretary of the Treaſury of the United States, dated the 26th day of *September,* 1789, incloſing two reſolutions of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, dated the 21ſt day of the ſame month, reſpecting the public debts.

A copy of the amendments, propoſed to be added to the conſtitution of the United States.

Two letters from *Henry Knox,* Eſquire, Secretary at War, of the 6th and 19th days of *October* laſt, incloſing an extract of an act of Congreſs, dated the 29th day of *September,* which authoriſes the Preſident of the United States to call into ſervice, from time to time, ſuch parts of the militia as he may judge neceſſary for the protection of the inhabitants of the frontiers of the United States from the hoſtile incurſions of the Indians; and requeſting a liſt of perſons entitled to penſions by the laws of this ſtate.

Copies of the Journals of the firſt ſeſſion of the Senate and of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States alſo accompany this meſſage.

By ſeveral reſolves of the General Aſſembly in the years 1775 and 1776, and by act of the 20th day of *March*, 1777, *four hundred thouſand pounds* were emitted in bills of credit, of which there remain unredeemed, by the laſt report of the Comptroller-General, *two hundred and twenty-five thouſand ſix hundred and ninety-nine pounds*. The holders of ſuch bills are entitled to receive, in lieu thereof, bills of credit of *April*, 1781, at the rate of one hundred and ſeventy-five for one. We are of opinion that a day ſhould be fixed for the final redemption of thoſe bills.

By an act of Aſſembly of the 1ſt day of *June*, 1780, Council were authoriſed to appoint agents in the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to purchaſe horſes and proviſions for the army of the United States, for which articles certificates bearing an intereſt of *ſix per cent.* were given by the agents. Of thoſe certificates there remain unpaid to the amount of *four thouſand pounds* in the paper bills of 1781. We recommend to the General Aſſembly to limit the time for the exchange of all ſuch certificates.

A law ſhould be paſſed to prevent the receipt of certificates of the United States in the Land-Office.

The act of Aſſembly of the eighth day of *April*, 1785, which eſtabliſhed the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-Office, and required them to account on oath for all fees received in their reſpective offices, expired on the firſt day of *May* laſt. That law, we are of opinion, ſhould be revived.

We ſubmit to the Legiſlature the propriety of a reviſion of all laws of this ſtate, which interfere with the acts or reſolves of the Congreſs of the United States.

The laws relative to the Health-Office are imperfect. The introduction of infectious diſeaſes into the ſtate is not ſufficiently guarded againſt, nor is the allowance to the officer adequate to the appointment. This ſubject we recommend to the early attention of the General Aſſembly.

We recall the attention of the Houſe to the claims of the widows and children of deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy. Orphans courts continue to draw orders for the payment of penſions, in conformity with the act of Aſſembly of the firſt day of *March*, 1780, although the funds out of which payment hath heretofore been made have, by ſubſequent acts, been appropriated to other purpoſes.

A limitation of the time for bringing ſuits againſt the ſureties of Sheriffs, and of the time for exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate, for ſupplies and perſonal ſervices during the late war, we are of opinion will be of public utility.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, November 3d, 1789.

And the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame were alſo read; and,

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon*, The ſaid meſſage and papers therewith tranſmitted were, by ſpecial order, read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Kennedy*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 4, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Huntingdon* was preſented to the chair, and read, by which it appeared that *David Stewart*, Eſquire, was duly elected a Repreſentative for the ſaid county for the enſuing year, who appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

Richard Downing, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter*, and *Thomas Clingan*, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from *Michael Bilmeyer*, praying to be re-appointed to print the minutes of this Houſe in the *German* language for the current year, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Charles Ciſt* was read, praying to be appointed to print the minutes of this Houſe in the *German* language.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to examine the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs of the laſt Houſe beg leave to report, in part——

That the ſubject of re-locating warrants;

The claims of the Deputy-Surveyors;

The claims of *Gabriel Cox*, *George Vallendigham*, and others;

An amendment to the bankrupt laws of this commonwealth;

And proviſion for the expences of the enſuing Convention; demand the early attention of this Houſe: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to alter and amend the bankrupt laws of this commonwealth, in ſuch manner as to ſubject the proceedings of the Commiſſioners to a proper examination and controul.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to take into their conſideration the ſubject of re-locating warrants, recommended to former Houſes by the

Supreme Executive Council, and that the committee be inſtructed to report a bill, if they think proper.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Lutz* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *James,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, making proviſion for the expences to be incurred by the Convention of this ſtate, choſen by the good people thereof to conſider, and, if they think proper, to alter and amend the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

A letter from *William Bradford,* Eſquire, Attorney-General of this ſtate, was read, repreſenting, that agreeably to the reſolution of the Honorable the General Aſſembly, paſſed the twenty-ſecond day of *September* laſt, actions have been inſtituted by the Judges of the Supreme Court againſt the commonwealth, and the iſſues joined therein are to be tried on *Saturday,* the ſeventh inſtant, to which actions he hath appeared; and requeſting to be informed whether the Houſe hath any inſtructions to give him, or facts, documents or papers to furniſh on that head, which may be of ſervice to the commonwealth in the trial of the ſaid cauſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, to take into conſideration the ſubject matter of the ſaid letter, and report thereon.

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Thurſday, November 5, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The returns of the annual election held in the county of *Franklin* was preſented to the chair, and read, by which it appeared that *James Johnſton* and *John Rhea,* Eſquires, were duly elected Repreſentatives for the ſaid county for the enſuing year; and the ſaid *James Johnſton,* Eſquire, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from *Melchior Steiner* was read, praying to be re-appointed to print the bills in the *German* language, which may be ordered by this Houſe to be publiſhed for conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Eleazer Oſwald,* guardian to *Jane, Blathwaite, Mary* and *Gibbs Jones,* all of the city of *Philadelphia,* minors, was read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid minors are, in right of their grand-mother, *Jane Jones,* deceaſed, entitled to one undivided ſixth part of and in a certain meſſuage and lot of ground thereunto belonging, ſituate on the eaſt ſide of *Water-ſtreet,* in the ſaid city, and ſtating that the preſent iſſues and profits thereof are inſufficient for the maintenance and ſupport of the ſaid minor children; therefore praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing the petitioner to diſpoſe of the undivided part of the ſaid minors in the premiſes, for their benefit and ſupport, and to enable him to give good and ſufficient deeds or conveyances to the purchaſer thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, to arrange the ſubject matters of the meſſage of Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, appointed to arrange the matters contained in the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council beg leave to offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the amendments propoſed to be added to the conſtitution of the United States be referred to a committee of the whole.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting certificates bearing intereſt at ſix *per centum,* given for the purchaſe of horſes and proviſions for the army of the United States, be committed.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the receipt of certificates of the United States in the land-office, be committed.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the ſalaries of the land-officers, be referred to a committee, and that they be inſtructed to bring in a bill, if they think proper.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the reviſion of all laws of this ſtate, which interfere with the acts or reſolves of the Congreſs of the United States, be committed.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, relative to the health-office, be committed.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the claims of the widows and children of deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments, and ſtate navy, be referred to the committee on ways and means.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the limitation of the time for bringing ſuits againſt the ſureties of Sheriffs, and of the time for exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate for ſupplies and perſonal ſervices during the late war, be committed, and that the committee be inſtructed to bring in a bill, if they think proper.

The letters of his Excellency the Preſident of the United States, of *Alexander Hamilton,* Eſquire, Secretary of the Treaſury of the United States, and *Henry Knox,* Eſquire, Secretary at War, with the papers therein incloſed (excepting the paper containing the amendments propoſed to be added to the conſtitution of the United States) your committee conſider matters of information.

Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting certificates bearing intereſt at ſix *per centum,* given for the purchaſe of horſes and proviſions for the army of the United States, be committed.

Ordered,

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Ihrie* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the receipt of certificates of the United States in the land-office, be committed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee on the ſubject of the foregoing reſolution, and to report thereon.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the ſalaries of the land-officers, be referred to a committee, and that they be inſtructed to report a bill, if they think proper.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the reviſion of all laws of this ſtate which interfere with the acts or reſolves of the Congreſs of the United States, be committed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, relative to the health-office, be committed.

Ordered, That the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the limitation of the time for bringing ſuits againſt the ſureties of Sheriffs, and of the time for exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate for ſupplies and perſonal ſervices during the late war, be committed, and that the committee be inſtructed to bring in a bill, if they think proper.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Leinbach* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the claims of the widows and children of deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments, and ſtate navy, be referred to the committee on ways and means.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 6, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

James Marſhall, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from *Francis Bailey* was read, ſetting forth, that he is poſſeſſed of good printing materials for executing any part of the printing buſineſs of the General Aſſembly, and praying he may be appointed Printer of ſuch part thereof as this Houſe may deem proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Hall* and *Sellers* was preſented to the Chair, and read, praying to be re-appointed Printers of the Minutes of this Houſe for the current year.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Thomas Bradford* was read, praying he may be re-appointed to print the Laws and Bills for the enſuing year, at the following prices, *viz.*

Laws, *per* ſheet, 1500 copies, ſewed and covered with blue paper, - - -	£ 4	15	0
Bills, 1 page, - - -	0	17	6
Ditto, 2 pages, - - - -	1	5	0
Ditto, 3 pages, - - - - -	1	12	0
Ditto, 4 pages, - - - -	1	15	0
Laws and Bills in the news-paper, per column, -		15	0

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Council which relates to the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, report——

That a conſiderable time having been afforded for the exchange of the bills of credit aforeſaid, it is in the opinion of your committee proper to limit the time for the exchange thereof; they therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, limiting the time for exchanging the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777.

The order of the day, for the election of Printers, being read,

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Boys,*

To poſtpone the order of the day, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to enquire into the cauſes why the laws and minutes of the late General Aſſembly were not printed with greater diſpatch and accuracy, and to report thereon.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*”

It was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the ſaid reſolution.

The petition of *Eleazer Oſwald,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Alliſon* and Mr. *Roberts,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, to confer with Council concerning the time, place and manner of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Reſolved, That all reports of committees be entered at full length on the Journals of this Houſe.

On motion of Mr. *Carſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Miley,*

Ordered, That the report of the committee on the petitions of *Daniel Leet, Joſhua* and *John Elder,* and *Samuel Jones,* deputy ſurveyors of the depreciation lands, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 25th laſt, and ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of this Houſe, be referred to Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Carſon,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it proper.

The committee appointed to confer with Council reſpecting the time, place and manner of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, reported, that Council recommend that *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for holding the ſaid election, that the Aſſembly-Chamber be the place, and they propoſe the following order of proceſſion:

ORDER of PROCESSION.

Conſtables, with their ſtaves.

Sub-Sheriffs, with their wands.

High-Sheriff and Coroner, with their wands.

Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals.

Attorney-General, and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia.*

Treaſurer, Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General.

Secretary of the Land Office.

Receiver-General and Surveyor-General.

Juſtices of the Peace.

Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and Clerk of the Court of Quarter Seſſions.

Clerks of the Mayor's Court and of the Corporation.

Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen.

Common-Council.

Maſter of the Rolls and Regiſter of Wills.

Regiſter of *German* Paſſengers, and Collector of Exciſe in the City and County of *Philadelphia.*

Aſſiſtant Secretary of the Council.

Secretary of Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT, and Honorable the VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.

Door-keeper of the Council.

Serjeant at Arms, with the Mace.

Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

Members of the General Aſſembly, two and two.

Door-keeper of the General Aſſembly.

Provoſt and Faculty of the Univerſity.

Officers of the Militia.

Citizens.

Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That the Houſe approve of the time, place and manner of holding the ſaid election.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 7, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

William Godfrey, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *York,* and *John Rhea,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Franklin,* appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the directions of the Conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from *Hannibal William Dobbyn* was read, ſetting forth, that the petitioner, with a number of his friends and tenants, emigrated from the kingdom of *Ireland,* with intention to ſettle in *America;* and being informed there are large tracts of unoccupied lands in the weſtern parts of *Pennſylvania,* among which is a certain lot, yet unſurveyed, known by the name of *M'Lean's Diſtrict,* in the depreciation lands, bounded on the weſt by the weſtern boundary of *Pennſylvania,* &c. and praying to be permitted to take up the aforeſaid diſtrict of land in one body, and that the ſame may be granted to him in one patent, upon ſuch moderate terms as the Houſe may deem proper; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid petition was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Marſhall* be a committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on the letter from *William Bradford,* Eſquire, Attorney-General, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the letter of *William Bradford,* Eſquire, Attorney-General of this ſtate, beg leave to report——

That the iſſue directed by the reſolve of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the twenty-ſecond day of *September,* 1789, to be joined in the amicable actions at the ſuit of the ſeveral Judges of the Supreme Court, to which the Attorney-General was ordered to appear on behalf of the commonwealth, relating only to the depreciation of the bills of credit emitted in 1785, the inſtructions contained in the ſaid reſolve appear to your committee ſufficiently ample, and the acts and proceedings of this Houſe being of a public nature, all the neceſſary documents and evidence may be found upon conſulting the minutes and volumes of laws: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolve:

Reſolved, That the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the twenty-ſecond day of *September,* 1789, directing the Attorney-General to join an iſſue, whether, by the conſtitution, law or equity, the commonwealth is bound to pay the ſalaries ſeverally allowed to the Judges of the Supreme Court in ſpecie, or the value thereof, requires no further explanation, nor has the Houſe any further inſtructions or documents to communicate.

That this reſolution, and that of the twenty-ſecond of *September,* 1789, be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council, who are requeſted to conduct the trial on behalf of the commonwealth, in ſuch manner as ſhall appear to them moſt conducive to the intereſt and honor of the ſtate.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That the committee appointed on the letter from the Attorney-General of this ſtate, *November* 4th inſtant, be a committee to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the ſubject of the report on ſaid letter, adopted this forenoon, and that Mr. *Vaux* be added to the ſaid committee.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to enquire into the cauſes why the laws and minutes of the General Aſſembly were not printed with greater diſpatch and accuracy, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to enquire why the laws and minutes of the late General Aſſembly were not printed with greater diſpatch and accuracy, report——

That in their opinion the minutes of the Houſe have been generally accurately printed; but that theſe, as well as the laws (which it cannot be expected the committee could now ſo minutely examine as to determine on all poſſible inaccuracies, or their cauſes) have been delayed much by the multiplicity of buſineſs which the Clerks of the late Houſe had before them, and much through a want of ſyſtem in their department; but as ſome alteration in this laſt mentioned caſe has lately taken place, they have reaſon to hope an amendment in this particular deficiency. Theſe cauſes, added to the almoſt total neglect of the committees appointed by the late Houſes to ſuperintend that buſineſs, have, we conceive, chiefly occaſioned the evils abovementioned.

The committee are nevertheleſs of opinion, that printers who ſhall obtain the buſineſs of the Houſe in future ſhall pay great attention both to diſpatch and accuracy; that the minutes be ready for delivery to the members at leaſt weekly, or oftener, if it can be done; and that the laws ſhall be done much more expeditiouſly than heretofore.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon*,

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the election of printers, to publiſh the laws and journals of this Houſe, and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 9, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Weſtmoreland* was preſented to the chair, and read, by which it appeared that *John Baird* and *James Barr*, Eſquires, were duly elected to repreſent the ſaid county in the General Aſſembly for the current year, who appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* was read, referring to their petition preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying their ſaid petition may be taken into conſideration, and a ſum of money granted for the purpoſe of repairing a road leading through *Croghan's Gap, White's Narrows, &c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Rowan*, late a Collector of taxes within the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that his eſtate, both real and perſonal, has been taken in execution, and himſelf confined in the gaol of the ſaid city and county, on account of monies ſaid to have been by him received, and praying he may be liberated from further confinement, upon his giving ſufficient ſecurity to aid and attend any perſon who may be appointed to ſettle and adjuſt the duplicates of taxes placed in his hands for collection.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Cart* was read, referring to his petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *November* 4th, 1788, and praying this Houſe to take the ſame into conſideration, and grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin* was read, praying the ſum of *one hundred and fifty pounds* may be granted by this Houſe for amending the road in the *Narrows*, near *Peter's* mountain, in the county of *Dauphin* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a printer of the minutes of this Houſe, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Hall* and *Sellers* were duly elected.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, *Thomas Bradford* printer of the laws and bills which may be ordered for public conſideration.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, *Michael Billmeyer* printer of the minutes in the *German* language; and *Melchior Steiner* printer of the bills which may be ordered for publication in the *German* language.

The committee appointed to examine the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be proper to lay before this Houſe, made a further report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, appointed to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, make a further report, *viz.*

That the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, and the petition of the firſt rate Pilots of the bay and river *Delaware* on the ſame ſubject, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That the petitions from the Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia* and the neighbourhood thereof, and all papers relating to the ſame, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That the memorial and petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer* be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That the petition of *William Lyon*, Eſquire, and all papers reſpecting the ſame, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That a committee be appointed to report a mode of procedure with treſpaſſing cattle.

That the letter from his Excellency the Preſident of this ſtate, incloſing the accounts of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, together with the incloſures, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That a committee be appointed, to report the manner in which the poor of *Berks* county are to be ſupported.

That the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox*, together with all papers relating to the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a commitee.

That the petition of the owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate, with the papers accompanying the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration the propriety of paſſing an act to regulate the export of pot and pearl aſhes from this ſtate, and make report.

That the petition of *Lewis Prahl*, with all papers relating to the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That the petition of *William Haſſall*, with the ſeveral papers reſpecting the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee.

That the repreſentation and petition of divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, reſpecting the fiſhery in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago*, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee. And

Reſolved, That the report of the committee on the petition of the inhabitants of *Shippenſburg*, in *Cumberland* county, together with ſaid petition, and reſolve of the Houſe thereon of the 27th of *March*, 1789, be referred to the members from the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, to report thereon.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid report was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia*, and the petition of the firſt rate Pilots of the bay and river *Delaware* on the ſame ſubject, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to the city members, to report thereon.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved*, That the petitions of the bakers of the city of *Philadelphia*
" and the neighbourhood thereof, and all papers relating to the ſame, be
" taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to a committee."

It was moved by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Reed*,

To amend the ſame, by inſerting, in lieu thereof, the following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of the loaf-bread bakers, ſpecially recommended over by the late Houſe *September* 21ſt laſt, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to the members for the city of *Philadelphia*; and that the petition of the biſcuit bakers, ſpecially recommended over by the late Houſe *September* 11th laſt, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to make report thereon.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

Reſolved, That the petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer* be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Reiff,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the petition of *William Lyon,* Eſquire, and all papers reſpecting the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Rhea,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report a mode of procedure with treſpaſſing cattle.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the laſt of the foregoing reſolutions.

Reſolved, That the letter from his Excellency the Preſident of this ſtate, incloſing the accounts of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, together with the incloſures, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Baird,* to report thereon.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved,* That a committee be appointed, to report the manner in " which the poor of *Berks* county are to be ſupported."

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Paul,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of altering and amending the poor laws of this commonwealth.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed reſolution adopted.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Vaux,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

That the ſaid committee conſiſt of a member from each county.

Which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Paul,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Clemſon,* Mr. *Schmyſer,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Lutz,* Mr. *Lerch,* Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *White,* Mr. *Baird,* Mr. *Ryerſon,* Mr. *Finley,* Mr. *Rhea,* Mr. *Vaux,* Mr. *Miley,* Mr. *Gore,* Mr. *D. Stewart,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Riley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* together with all papers relating to the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the petition of the owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate, with the papers accompanying the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Lilley,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Ryerſon,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration the propriety of paſſing an act to regulate the export of pot and pearl aſhes from this ſtate, and to make report.

Ordered, That Mr. *Boys,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the laſt of the foregoing reſolutions.

Reſolved, That the petition of *Lewis Prahl,* with all papers relating to the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *D. Stewart,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the petition of *William Haſſall,* with the ſeveral papers reſpecting the ſame, be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Barr* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the repreſentation and petition of divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York,* reſpecting the fiſhery in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago,* be taken from the files of the late Houſe, and referred to the members from the county of *York,* to report thereon.

And *Reſolved,* That the report of the committee on the petition of the inhabitants of *Shippenſburg,* in *Cumberland* county, together with ſaid petition, and reſolve of the Houſe thereon of the twenty-ſeventh day of *March,* 1789, be referred to the members from the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin,* to report thereon.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 10, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John M'Dowell, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from 90 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Manahan* and *Newberry,* in the county of *York,* was read, referring to their petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 26th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and relief granted them in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, Treaſurer of this ſtate, was read: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,*

The ſaid letter was by ſpecial order read the ſecond time, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe are ſenſible of the integrity and aſſiduity with which the late Treaſurer, *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, has fulfilled the duties of his appointment, and direct that his letter, preſented this day, be placed on the minutes of this Houſe.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the reſolution ?*"

It was unanimouſly carried in the affirmative.

The letter is as follows, *viz.*

November 9th, 1789.

SIR,

ON account of the very unfavorable ſtate of my health, as well as becauſe I moſt earneſtly wiſh to devote ſome of the few remaining hours of my life to a favorite ſcience, I find myſelf under the neceſſity of declining the office of Treaſurer.

I have now held that office for almoſt thirteen years, having been annually appointed by the unanimous voice, ſo far as I know, of the Repreſentatives of the freemen of this ſtate. A circumſtance I ſhall ever reflect on with ſatisfaction, and which does me the greateſt honor.

I will not pay ſo ill a compliment to thoſe I owe ſo much, as to ſuppoſe the principal motive in theſe repeated appointments was any other than the public good; but I am, nevertheleſs, very willing to believe that a regard to my intereſt was not wholly out of view; and I ſhall perhaps never have another opportunity of expreſſing, with ſo much propriety, my ſincereſt gratitude to the Repreſentatives of my countrymen, whoſe favor I have indeed often experienced on other occaſions.

I accepted the treaſury when it was attended with difficulty and danger, and conſequently when there was no competition for it. Soon afterwards a depreciated currency, prodigiouſly accumulated, made it extremely burthenſome, without any proſpect of profit. In a more favorable ſituation of our affairs it might have been lucrative, had not the very ſmall commiſſions allowed by law been ſcarcely equal to the riſque of receiving and paying. In 1785 my commiſſions were increaſed, and the office was for ſome time profitable; but the difficulties, or remiſſneſs, in collecting the public revenues again reduced it to a very moderate compenſation. If, however, the embarraſſments of the office have in general been little underſtood by thoſe not immediately concerned in it, if the emoluments of it have been greatly exaggerated in the public opinion, I am ſtill the more obliged to the ſeveral Aſſemblies, who, under theſe impreſſions, have nevertheleſs continued me ſo long their Treaſurer.

The confidence of the public I have ever eſteemed ſo invaluable a poſſeſſion, that it has been my fixed determination not to forfeit it by any voluntary act of impropriety. Where my conduct has been deficient in the diſcharge of my duty, I hope it will be imputed to want of ability, and not of integrity.

Fully ſenſible of the importance of the office I have the honor to hold, I chearfully commit it into the hands of thoſe, who properly are, and ever muſt be, the guardians of the public good.

I am, S I R,

With great reſpect,

Your much obliged and very humble ſervant,

DAVID RITTENHOUSE.

The Honorable the SPEAKER
of Aſſembly.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Treaſurer of this ſtate, and that it be the order for that day.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the limitation of the time for bringing ſuits againſt the ſureties of Sheriffs, and of the time for exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate for ſupplies and perſonal ſervices during the late war, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council which relates to the time of bringing ſuits againſt Sheriffs, and alſo to the time of exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate for ſupplies and perſonal ſervices during the late war, report——

That the firſt propoſition in that paragraph of the meſſage committed to them having led them to examine with attention the preſent laws relative to the ſecurity given by Sheriffs and Coroners on receiving their commiſſions, the whole plan has appeared to them defective in the ſafety intended to be derived, both to the ſtate and individuals, from the ſecurities directed to be given, which are merely of a perſonal nature, while, from the ambiguous expreſſions of the law, it is doubted whether thoſe ſecurities are not liable, after judgment obtained, at almoſt any diſtance of time, to any amount to which the delinquency of the officer may extend.

Agreeably to their inſtructions they therefore report a bill, to be entituled "*An Act to alter and amend the laws of this ſtate relative to the ſureties to* "*be given by Sheriffs and Coroners, for the faithful execution of their truſts,* "*and alſo to limit the time of bringing ſuits againſt ſuch ſureties.*

With regard to the ſecond ſubject in the before mentioned paragraph of the meſſage referred to them, it appears to the committee that the evil mentioned therein is of a ſerious nature, many unexpected demands for ſupplies and ſervices during the late war continuing to be brought forward by individuals, ſome of which relate to periods ſo diſtant as to render it difficult to determine, by proper evidence, whether they are juſt or unjuſt.

The committee, having taken the liberty to ſeparate two ſubjects ſo diſtinct in their nature, conform to their inſtructions, in reporting a bill, to be entituled "*An Act to limit the time of exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate, for ſup*"*plies furniſhed or ſervices rendered by individuals during the late war.*"

Whereupon the bill, entituled "*An Act relating to the ſureties to be given* "*by Sheriffs and Coroners,*" was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

And the bill, entituled "*An Act to limit the time of exhibiting claims* "*againſt the ſtate, for ſupplies furniſhed or ſervices rendered during the late* "*war,*" was alſo read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with their former petition, to Mr. *Paul,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Miley,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Carſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Reſolved, That one hundred copies of the amendments propoſed by Congreſs to the conſtitution of the United States be printed, for the uſe of the members of this Houſe.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, poſtponed *November* 4th: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wright,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Ordered, That all papers relating to the claims of *George Vallendigham, Gabriel Coxe,* and others, be taken off the files of the late Houſe, and referred to Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday,

Wedneſday, November 11, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, ſetting forth, that the inhabitants of this ſtate reſiding on the weſt ſide of the *Allegheny* mountain labour under great inconvenience, on account of the defects as well as impracticability of executing the law reſpecting the taking up ſtray horſes and cattle; and praying the ſaid law may be reviſed and amended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Cadwalader Evans* was read, praying to be appointed Treaſurer of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Thomas Smith*, Eſquire, was preſented to the chair, and read, praying to be appointed Treaſurer of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *William Lyon*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the report of the committee of the late Houſe on the petition of *William Lyon*, Eſquire, and the reſolution taken thereon, were referred, report——

That it appears to the committee right and proper, in conſideration of the peculiar circumſtances of the caſe of the ſaid *William Lyon*, that the relief propoſed to be extended to him by the late Houſe ſhould be now granted, the ſaid *William Lyon* having ſacrificed a conſiderable portion of his private property to the preſervation of the public records: They are farther of opinion that the diviſions of the county of *Cumberland*, of which he is Prothonotary, having diminiſhed the profits of his office, it would be reaſonable that the time of exoneration from the payment of the tax on writs iſſued from his office ſhould be enlarged beyond that propoſed by the late Houſe: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to exonerate *William Lyon*, Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county of *Cumberland*, from the payment of the tax upon writs for the four terms of the county court of common pleas for the ſaid county next preceding the term of *September* 1789, and to exempt from taxation for ſix terms next enſuing, and including the ſaid term of *September* 1789, all writs iſſuing from the ſaid court, if the ſaid *William Lyon* ſhall ſo long continue Prothonotary thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, to take into conſideration the propriety of paſſing an act to regulate the export of pot and pearl aſhes from this ſtate, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, appointed to take into conſideration the propriety of paſſing an act to regulate the export of pot and pearl aſhes, report——

That from the preſent appearance pot and pearl aſhes will probably become a conſiderable branch of export; therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, authoriſing the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to appoint an officer to inſpect all pot and pearl aſhes, previous to their being ſhipped.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe are ready to proceed to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council.

The petition of *John Cart*, read *November* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims, appointed *November* 3d inſtant.

The committee appointed to inform Council that the Houſe were ready to proceed to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would immediately attend for that purpoſe.

The Supreme Executive Council being introduced into the Aſſembly Chamber, conformably to the reſolution of the ſixth inſtant, proceeded, in conjunction with the Houſe, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, purſuant to the nineteenth ſection of the conſtitution, and unanimouſly elected, by ballot, His Excellency *THOMAS MIFFLIN*, Eſquire, Preſident, and the Honorable *GEORGE ROSS*, Eſquire, Vice-Preſident, for the enſuing year; and the members of Council and General Aſſembly having ſeverally ſigned a declaration thereof,

The Houſe then, in the order of proceſſion, attended the proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, at the old Court-houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia*, and having returned to the Aſſembly Chamber,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *November* 12, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Michael Hillegas* and *Chriſtian Febiger* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Treaſurer of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* was read, ſetting forth, that *William Cortwright*, an inhabitant of *Lower-Smithfield*, in the ſaid county, was taken priſoner in the year 1781 by a party of *Indians*; that on the day following, in an engagement between the militia and the ſaid party of *Indians*, he was re-taken, and dangerouſly wounded, of which wounds he has been languiſhing ever ſince, and is entirely unable to ſupport himſelf and family; therefore praying this Houſe to take their diſtreſſed ſituation into conſideration, and grant them ſuch relief as may be deemed proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of 90 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Manahan* and *Newberry*, in the county of *York*, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Erb*, Mr. *Ludwig*, Mr. *Ealer*, Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Riley*, to report thereon.

A petition from 460 inhabitants of the county of *York* was read, praying a part of the ſaid county may be erected into a ſeparate county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin,* read *November* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the counties of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin,* to report thereon.

The petition of *James Rowan,* read *November* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* who, as they ſet forth in their ſaid petition, have paid purchaſe monies to the late Proprietaries for which no lands have been ſurveyed, for reaſons ſtated by the petitioners, have examined into the ſeveral matters ſet forth in the ſaid petition, and are of opinion the prayer thereof ſhould be complied with; but as a number of caſes ſimilar to that of the petitioners exiſt in the ſtate, your committee conceive a general law ſhould be enacted on the ſubject: They therefore report——

Reſolved, That the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox* be referred to the committee appointed on the re-locating buſineſs, with inſtructions to inſert a clauſe comprehending the caſe of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* and all perſons in like circumſtances.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the reſolution contained in the ſaid report?*"

It was moved by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To ſtrike out the remainder of the reſolution, after the words "*re-locating buſineſs.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox* be referred to the committee appointed on the re-locating buſineſs.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, on that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the Health-office, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council relative to the Health-office, report——

That it appears to the committee that the exiſting laws are defective, both with reſpect to the mode of preventing the introduction of infectious diſeaſes, and to the allowance of an adequate proviſion to the officer: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate for preventing the introduction of infectious diſeaſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *William Lyon,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to exonerate *William Lyon,* Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county of *Cumberland,* from the payment of the tax upon writs for the four terms of the county court of common pleas for the ſaid county next preceding the term of *September* 1789, and to exempt from taxation for ſix terms next enſuing, and including the ſaid term of *September* 1789, all writs iſſuing from the ſaid court, if the ſaid *William Lyon* ſhall ſo long continue Prothonotary thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Rhea* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects certificates bearing intereſt at ſix *per centum,* given for the purchaſe of horſes and proviſions for the army of the United States, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Council which relates to certificates iſſued by the agents of this ſtate, for proviſions and horſes furniſhed for the army of the United States, agreeable to an act of Aſſembly paſſed the firſt day of *June,* 1780, beg leave to report——

That they find there are ſtill certificates of the above deſcription unredeemed, to the amount of *four thouſand pounds* paper bills of 1781, and are of opinion that the time ought to be limited for the exchanging all ſuch certificates.

Reſolved, That this report be committed to the committee that may be appointed to bring in a bill, as mentioned in the report preſented to the chair the ſixth inſtant, reſpecting the reſolve money of 1775, 1776 and 1777, with inſtructions to add a clauſe or clauſes to the bill they may be directed to bring in, comprehending the ſubject referred to your committee.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to take into conſideration the propriety of paſſing an act to regulate the export of pot and pearl aſhes, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, authoriſing the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to appoint an officer to inſpect all pot and pearl aſhes, previous to their being ſhipped, with inſtructions to the ſaid committee to inſert in the bill a clauſe or clauſes, pointing out the duty of the officer, and ſuch other matters as in their opinion properly fall within the ſubject.

Ordered, That Mr. *Boys,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, read *November* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, limiting the time for exchanging the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777.

It was moved by Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,*

That the further conſideration of the ſaid reſolution be poſtponed, in order to take up, for a ſecond reading, the report read this forenoon, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects certificates bearing intereſt at ſix *per centum,* given for the purchaſe of horſes and proviſions for the army of the United States, for the purpoſe of comprehending both ſubjects in one reſolution.

Which was carried in the affirmative, the report read the ſecond time, and the following reſolution adopted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, limiting the time for exchanging the bills of credit emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777; and the ſaid committee are inſtructed to inſert in the ſaid bill, if they ſee proper, a clauſe or clauſes on the ſubject of ſuch of the certificates iſſued by the agents of this ſtate, agreeably to an act of Aſſembly of the firſt day of *June,* 1780, as remain unredeemed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to limit the time of exhibiting claims againſt*
"*the ſtate, for ſupplies furniſhed or ſervices rendered during the late war,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Tranſcripts of the aſſeſſments for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for furniſhing and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate, for the year 1789, laid on the perſons and property of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 13, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Stephen Balliot, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Northampton,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

John Harris, Eſquire, appearing in the Houſe, and demanding his ſeat as the Repreſentative for the county of *Mifflin,* was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* read *November* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Ryerſon,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Finley,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* reſpecting the diſtreſſed ſituation of *William Cortwright,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Paul,* Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

A reſolution of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, November 12th,* 1789.

Reſolved,

THAT Mr. *Miles,* Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Wilſon* be a committee, to confer with a committee of the General Aſſembly (ſhould the Houſe think proper to appoint a committee for the purpoſe) on the diſtreſſed ſituation of the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, the payment of whoſe penſions under the laws of the ſtate hath ceaſed, and who will be deprived of ſupport until the fifth of *March* next, the time fixed by Congreſs for the payment of their penſions at the treaſury of the United States.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to confer with the committee of Council on the ſubject of the ſaid reſolve, and report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the repreſentation of the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia,* and the petition of the firſt rate Pilots of the bay and river *Delaware,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the reſolutions of the late Houſe relative to the application of the Board of Wardens, and that part of the meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council which called upon the Houſe for their ſpeedy attention thereto, beg leave to report——

That from the effects of the laws and regulations made by the Congreſs of the United States, the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia* labour under great inconveniencies, and it is neceſſary that ſome ſpeedy proviſion ſhould be made in the premiſes: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate relative to the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia.*

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid report was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate relative to the Board of Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered, That the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the letter from his Excellency the Preſident incloſing the accounts of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the buſineſs recommended by Council, relative to the claim of Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, report——

That they have duly examined the papers and enquired into the circumſtances of ſaid claim, and are of opinion with the committee of a former

Houſe, whoſe report of the 4th of *October*, 1788, was adopted by the Houſe, that the amount of a warrant drawn by the Board of Treaſury of the United States on *Thomas Smith*, Eſquire, Continental Loan-Officer, and by him credited to the account of the requiſitions of Congreſs about the month of *June*, 1787, for the ſum of Three Thouſand Dollars, ſpecie, is yet due from this ſtate to the ſaid *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, together with intereſt at ſix *per centum per annum* on the ſame, from the date of the aſſumption of the ſaid debt by the State Treaſurer; but that the depreciation claimed on the ſum of *two hundred and four pounds fifteen ſhillings*, which the ſaid *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, ſtate to have received in the bills of credit of this ſtate, the committee are of opinion ought not to be allowed, as the ſaid *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, at their own option, received the ſame in full for a warrant for Five Thouſand Dollars: The committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, for the ſum of *twelve hundred and eighty-five pounds ſix ſhillings and three pence*, in full of their claims, to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* ſpecially appropriated by law for the payment of claims, as ſoon as that fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read yeſterday, on that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the Health Office, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate for preventing the introduction of infectious diſeaſes.

Ordered, That the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Treaſurer of this ſtate, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Chriſtian Febiger*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Ryerſon* be added to the committee appointed to examine the laws and minutes of the Houſe, prepare them for publication, and correct them at the preſs.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to examine the laws of this ſtate, and report what acts have expired, or are near expiring by their own limitation.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to compenſate* William Lyon, *Eſquire*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act directing the payment of the accounts of ſundry Deputy-Surveyors of the* "*depreciation lands*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act relating to the ſureties to be given by Sheriffs* "*and Coroners*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Mr. *Kennedy*, in his place, read a bill, entituled " *An Act to continue an* " *act, entituled* " An Act for opening and amending the public roads and " highways," and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 14, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Remonſtrances and petitions from the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Lack*, *Milford*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, in the county of *Mifflin*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled " *An Act for erecting certain* " *parts of* Cumberland *and* Northumberland *counties into a ſeparate county*," and praying the lines of the ſaid county of *Mifflin* may be altered conformably to the prayer of the petitions of 1726 inhabitants reſiding on the north ſide of *Tuſcarora* Mountain, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly, *February* 27th, 1788, and that the inhabitants of the aforeſaid townſhips may be reannexed to the county of *Cumberland*, or the ſeat of juſtice for the ſaid county of *Mifflin* fixed agreeably to the bill publiſhed for conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Greenwood* townſhip, in the county of *Mifflin*, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing remonſtrances and petitions, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, were read, praying they may be reannexed to the county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Lewis*, *James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 22d laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 7th inſtant, on the petition of *Hannibal William Dobbyn*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *Hannibal William Dobbyn* report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of the ſaid petition, and although the ſettlement of the weſtern lands is an object very deſirable, and worthy the attention and encouragement of the General Aſſembly, yet they are of opinion that the terms propoſed by the petitioner are inadmiſſible: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Hannibal William Dobbyn* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to continue an act, entituled* " An Act for opening and amending the public roads and highways within this province," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act directing the payment of the accounts of ſundry Deputy-Surveyors of the depreciation lands,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to compenſate* William Lyon, *Eſquire,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 16, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the members of the corporation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of *Saint John,* in the borough of *York,* was read, ſetting forth, that although the utmoſt exertions have been made to procure the collection of the ſubſcriptions for erecting the academy and parſonage of the aforeſaid church and corporation, and to raiſe a ſum of money on mortgage to complete the ſame, and pay off the remaining debts, it is found impracticable; and praying they may be by law enabled to raiſe, by way of lottery, the ſum of *ſeven hundred and twenty-three pounds fifteen ſhillings,* for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Commiſſioners and Treaſurer of *Huntingdon* county, read in the late Houſe *September* 28th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Baird,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *D. Stewart,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Alexander Lewis, James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell,* read *November* 14th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Lancaſter* county, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Harris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration the ſecurity to be given by the State Treaſurer, and report what they deem proper thereupon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 10th inſtant, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſome of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland,* report——

That they have examined into the ſituation of the petitioners and other ſettlers north and north-weſt of the *Blue Mountain,* and find it is of the greateſt importance to them that a road ſhould be made for carriages through that part of the mountain called *Croghan*'s *Gap* and *White*'s *Narrows,* there being no other poſſible road by which they can tranſport their produce to market: Your committee alſo find, that that part of the county is ſo thinly inhabited, and ſo extremely poor, that the people cannot make the road paſſable for carriages by the exiſting road laws of the ſtate: Impreſſed with theſe conſiderations, your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer for the ſum of   *pounds,* to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* appropriated for claims and improvements by an act paſſed the 28th day of *September,* 1789, to be laid out in repairing that part of the road over the *Blue Mountain,* commonly called *Croghan*'s *Gap* and *White*'s *Narrows.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 10th, on the petition of *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham* and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the claims of *Gabriel Coxe, Andrew Sweringen* and *George Vallendigham,* report——

That having carefully examined the ſaid claims, with the papers and vouchers reſpecting the ſame, do find that in the year 1780, when the frontier inhabitants of *Waſhington* county were ſorely harraſſed by the cruel depredations of the *Indians,* at which time the government of *Virginia* ceaſed to give protection, and the government of *Pennſylvania* had not yet began to operate, and conſequently before the militia had come under any organization, ſo as to give immediate relief to the ſuffering frontiers, then on the very point of breaking—at this period the ſaid *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham* and *Andrew Sweringen* ſtepped forth, and, ſtimulated by truly generous and patriotic principles, engaged Captain *Thomas Bay* to raiſe a company of rangers for the defence of thoſe helpleſs and diſtreſſed people, whoſe local ſituation expoſed them to all that carnage and barbarity which mark the footſteps of ſavage cruelty, becoming ſurety to the ſaid Captain *Bay* for the payment of him and his men for ſuch ſervice.

The company was raiſed and the duty performed, which contributed much to the ſafety and protection of the ſaid frontiers; and the ſaid *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham* and *Andrew Sweringen* did pay to the ſaid Captain *Thomas Bay* and company the ſum of *two hundred and fifty-five pounds,* with coſts of ſuit, as appears from the copy of record of the court of *Waſhington,* which accompanies the claim.

From theſe premiſes, your committee are of opinion that *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham* and *Andrew Sweringen* are juſtly entitled to have the money by them advanced in payment of Captain *Thomas Bay* and company refunded by this ſtate; and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *two hundred and fifty-five pounds,* and that the ſame be paid out of the funds appropriated to the uſe of claims and improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 13th, to confer with a committee of the Supreme Executive Council on the ſubject of the payment of penſions due to the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, who were directed to confer with a committee of the Supreme Executive Council on the diſtreſſed ſituation of the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, report——

That it appears there are about one hundred and fifty wounded and diſabled ſoldiers, who are without any means of ſubſiſtence until the proviſion made by Congreſs ſhall take place, which will not be until the fifth day of *March* next; that in the mean time thoſe people will be reduced to extreme want, to relieve which your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw an order or orders on the State Treaſurer for the ſum of *one thouſand pounds,* out of the monies reſerved for claims and improvements, in four drafts, of *two hundred and fifty pounds* each, for the uſe of the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, and that Council be requeſted to direct ſuch ſecurities to be taken, as they ſhall deem ſufficient to ſecure the re-payment of ſaid monies into the treaſury of this ſtate, whenever and ſo ſoon as the ſame ſhall be recovered from the treaſury of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Hannibal William Dobbyn,* read *November* 14th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Hannibal William Dobbyn* have leave to withdraw his petition

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 17, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *November* 13th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Northampton* county, reſpecting the diſtreſſed ſituation of *William Cortwright,* report——

That they have paid due attention to the prayer of the petitioners, and notwithſtanding they feel ſenſibly for the diſtreſſed and calamitous condition of the object of the petition, and however willing they may be that the ſtate ſhould contribute to the relief of the poor and diſtreſſed, yet they conceive that extending legiſlative aid to *William Cortwright* would have a tendency to open ſuch a door for applications, as would involve the Legiſlature in innumerable difficulties: Theſe conſiderations induce the committee to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioners of *Northampton* county in favor of *William Cortwright* cannot be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to take into their conſideration the ſecurity to be given by the State Treaſurer, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to take into their conſideration the ſecurity to be given by the State Treaſurer, and report what they deem proper thereupon, report——

That it appears expedient that ſuitable proviſion ſhould be made, to require of the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being to give ſecurity for the due execution of his truſt, and that ſuch ſecurity ſhould be approved of by the Speaker of the Houſe: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to aſcertain the ſecurity to be given by the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time:

Whereupon *Reſolved,* That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to aſcertain the ſecurity to be given by the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the repreſentation and petition of divers inhabitants of the borough and county of *York,* reſpecting the fiſhery in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the borough and county of *York,* both in favor of and againſt the fiſheries in the rivers *Codorus* and *Conewago,* report——

That in the opinion of your committee, although the fiſheries in ſaid rivers may have been of conſiderable benefit to the inhabitants of the borough and county of *York,* yet the public works erected on ſaid rivers have been done at very conſiderable expence to the owners, and are of general utility to the ſaid borough and county, and to oblige the ſaid owners to erect platforms, agreeable to the prayer of the petitioners, at this time would be oppreſſive: Therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to ſuſpend for a limited time the act, entituled "*An Act for* "*regulating the fiſheries in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago," paſſed the ninth day of *March,* 1771.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made a further report, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, beg leave farther to report, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in *Franklin* county, reſpecting the tax laid in the year 1782, together with the report thereon, be committed.

Reſolved, That the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the 29th of *September* laſt, reſpecting the repairing of *Mud-Iſland,* be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That the reſolution of the late Houſe of Aſſembly of the 14th of *September* laſt, reſpecting the appointment of a perſon of competent legal talents to digeſt and arrange the laws of this ſtate, *&c.* be committed.

Reſolved, That the petition of *Blackall William Ball, Peter Phelen* and *William Clingan,* reſpecting loſt certificates, be taken from the files, and referred to a committee, together with the report of a committee thereon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 13th inſtant, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, reſpecting ſtray horſes, cattle, *&c.* and the law to regulate wood-rangers, beg leave to report——

That it is impoſſible to regulate the wood-ranging buſineſs otherwiſe, than that the evils ariſing would be greater than the benefits accruing therefrom; and that ſome amendments to the act, entituled "*An Act concerning cattle, horſes and ſheep treſpaſſing within this province,*" eſpecially reſpecting the manner of advertiſing, would anſwer every purpoſe that could reaſonably be expected. They therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to alter and amend an act, entituled "*An Act concerning cattle, horſes and ſheep treſpaſſing within this province;*" and to repeal ſo much of an act of the late province, paſſed the ninth day of *May,* 1724, as empowers and requires the county court of quarter ſeſſions to licenſe perſons as Rangers in their reſpective counties.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 5th inſtant, on that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the receipt of certificates of the United States in the Land Office, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on that part of the meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to the receipt of certificates granted by the United States in the Land Office, beg leave to report——

That while ſo conſiderable a part of the debt due from the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* to its citizens remains unpaid, it appears to the committee inexpedient that the lands, the proper and almoſt the only fund for diſcharging ſuch debts, ſhould be applied for the redemption of the certificates granted by the United States, which it cannot be doubted will be properly provided for by Congreſs.

Agreeably to their inſtructions, they therefore report a bill, to be entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, as authoriſes and directs the receiving of certificates of the United States in payment of lands purchaſed or to be purchaſed of this ſtate.*" Whereupon

The ſaid bill was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and in the mean time publiſhed for conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the ſecurity to be given by the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The petition of a number of the members of the corporation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of *Saint John*, in the borough of *York*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *York* county, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Gabriel Coxe* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following reſolution, contained therein, *viz.*

" *Reſolved*, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to autho-
" riſe the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to draw on the Trea-
" ſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *two hundred and fifty-five pounds*, and
" that the ſame be paid out of the funds appropriated to the uſe of claims
" and improvements.

A motion was made by Mr. *Wright*, ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon*,

To amend the ſaid reſolution, ſo as to read as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *two hundred and fifty-five pounds*, in favor of *Gabriel Coxe*, *George Vallendigham* and *Andrew Sweringen*, for monies advanced by them for the defence of the frontiers of this ſtate during the late war, and that the ſame be paid out of the funds appropriated to the uſe of claims and improvements.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the reſolution, as amend-*
" *ed?*"

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *November* 18, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Herman Huſband, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by the Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

A petition from the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying they may be annexed to the county of *Mifflin*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Ealer*, Mr. *Vaux*, Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Harris*, to report thereon.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, read *November* 14th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The remonſtrances and petitions of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Lack*, *Milford*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, in the county of *Mifflin*, read *November* 14th inſtant, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of *Greenwood* townſhip, in the county of *Mifflin,* read *November* 14th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Petitions from 116 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, ſetting forth, that the act, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this* "*ſtate,*" doth not anſwer the humane and ſalutary purpoſes thereby intended, and praying ſome more effectual mode may be adopted for the puniſhment of burglaries and highway robberies, in order to ſecure the perſons and property of the citizens of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Shippenſburg,* in the county of *Cumberland,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of ſundry inhabitants of *Shippenſburg* townſhip, in *Cumberland* county, praying that the whole of *Shippenſburg* townſhip may be and remain in *Cumberland* county, beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to fix and eſtabliſh the original line between *Lurgan* and *Hopewell* townſhips to be the boundary line between *Cumberland* and *Franklin* counties, excepting all that tract of land belonging to *Edward Shippen,* Eſquire, whereon the town of *Shippenſburg* is erected, which land ſhall be and remain in *Cumberland* county.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid report was read the ſecond time, and the reſolution therein contained adopted: Whereupon

Ordered, That the members from the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the ſaid reſolution.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* reſpecting ſtray horſes, cattle, &c. was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be re-committed, and that Mr. *Baird* and Mr. *Marſhall* be added to the committee.

The report read *November* 16th, on that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council reſpecting the penſions of wounded and diſabled ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolutions in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to borrow, on behalf of this ſtate, the ſum of *nine hundred pounds,* or ſo much thereof as ſhall be neceſſary, to be applied to the relief of the diſtreſſed, wounded and diſabled ſoldiers, who have received penſions from this ſtate, to be diſtributed amongſt them in monthly payments, proportionate to their reſpective penſions.

That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to take effectual meaſures for inſuring the re-payment of ſuch monies as they may ſo borrow, by receiving from ſuch ſoldiers, at the time of diſtributing ſuch proportionate parts of their reſpective penſions, regular and ſufficient transfers and aſſignments of an equal amount of their reſpective penſions, payable at the treaſury of the United States on the fifth day of *March* next.

That in caſe re-payment of ſuch advances, ſo made for the relief of ſuch wounded and diſabled ſoldiers, ſhall not be made at the treaſury of the United States on or before the fifth day of *March* next, the Supreme Executive Council ſhall be authoriſed and requeſted to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of perſons lending ſuch monies, for the ſaid ſum of *nine hundred pounds*, or for ſuch part thereof as ſhall not be reimburſed on or before the ſaid fifth day of *March* next.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolutions.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the* " *aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably thereto, and that Mr. *Rawle* be added to the committee.

The report of a committee on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioners of *Northampton* county in favor of *William Cortwright* cannot be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, read *November* 16th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to aſcertain the quality of pot and pearl aſhes*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for granting preſent relief to the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers who have* " *received penſions from this ſtate*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to aſcertain the ſecurity to be given by the* " *Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A motion was made by Mr. *Vaux*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*, in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, offering a reward, to be paid out of the public treaſury, to any perſon or perſons who ſhall apprehend, and ſecure in any gaol within this commonwealth, any murderer, burglar or highway robber, ſo that they be brought to juſtice, and convicted of either of the aforeſaid crimes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee on the petition of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in *Franklin* county, reſpecting the tax laid in the year 1782, as well as the report of a committee of the late Houſe thereon, and to make report.

Reſolved, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Gurney* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee on the report of a committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, made to that Houſe, reſpecting the repairing of *Mud-Iſland,* and to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the petitions of *Blackall William Ball, Peter Phelen* and *William Clingan,* reſpecting loſt certificates, together with the report of a committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly thereon, be referred to the committee on claims appointed *November* 3d inſtant, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Baird,* Mr. *Rhea,* Mr. *D. Stewart* and Mr. *Harris* be added to the committee on claims, appointed *November* 3d inſtant.

Ordered, That Mr. *Barr,* Mr. *Johnſton,* Mr. *D. Stewart* and Mr. *Harris* be added to the committee appointed to deviſe ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 19, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 43 draymen of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating, that through ignorance they had neglected to comply with the directions of an act of Aſſembly paſſed *February* 18th, 1769, and had thereby incurred divers forfeitures, by reaſon of their uſing wheels of a leſs breadth than four inches, which forfeitures being exacted would entirely ruin the petitioners; therefore praying the operation of ſaid law may be ſuſpended, until they can comply with the injunctions of the aforeſaid act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Manahan* and *Newberry* townſhips, in the county of *York,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Manahan* and *Newberry* townſhips, in the county of *York,* report——

That they have duly conſidered the prayer of ſaid petition, but have not been able to diſcover any particular hardſhips the good people of theſe townſhips labour under, but what are common to ſome of the citizens in almoſt every county in the ſtate; and upon examining an act for explaining and aſcertaining the boundary line between the counties of *York* and *Cumberland,* paſſed the ninth day of *February,* 1750, it appears that great differences had ariſen between the Truſtees of the ſaid counties for want of ſome natural boundary, and for that reaſon the ſaid line was extended northward to the creek called *Yellow Breeches*; and no good cauſe appearing to the committee for an alteration, they offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Manahan* and *Newberry* townſhips, in the county of *York*, ought not to be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer*, late a Captain in the army of the United States, praying for donation lands, report——

That the petitioner ſerved in the regiment of artillery raiſed in this ſtate, and commanded by Colonel *Thomas Procter*, from the year 1777 until the year 1778; that he, from that time to the end of the war, ſerved in other troops, who were never acknowledged as any part of the quota of this ſtate in the army of the United States, and that he was returned as a foreign officer, who received a ſum in caſh; that the time limited by law for granting donation lands, even to thoſe who have been returned as of the line of this ſtate, is expired; that however favorably your committee may be diſpoſed to the petitioner's claim, or however reluctantly they may differ in ſentiment from the late Aſſembly, as recommended to this Houſe, yet we cannot help being of the opinion that granting donation lands in the preſent caſe would be opening a dangerous door, and have a tendency to encourage a variety of other perſons to make claims of like nature, which we conceive would be improper, either on the principles of juſtice or good policy, unleſs the Houſe means to make like proviſion for all ſuch as are in ſimilar circumſtances: Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That Captain *Bartholomew Van Heer* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the borough and county of *York*, read *November* 17th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to ſuſpend for a limited time the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating the fiſheries in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago," paſſed the ninth day of *March*, 1771.

Ordered, That the members from the county of *York* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 13th, to examine the laws of this ſtate, and report what acts have expired, or are near expiring by their own limitation, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to examine the laws of this ſtate, and report ſuch acts as have expired, or are near expiring by their own limitation, report——

That the following laws will expire by their own limitation at the end of the next ſeſſion, *viz.*

An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate, paſſed *September* 15th, 1786. And alſo

An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, paſſed *March* 29th, 1788.

The proviſions contained in the following act expired on the 13th day of *September* laſt, *viz.*

An Act for allowing a further time for diſtributing the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth, paſſed *September* 13th, 1788.

The proviſions contained in the following act expired on the 1ſt day of *September* laſt, *viz.*

An Act to ſuſpend for a limited time the collection of all militia fines incurred under laws paſſed before the twenty-ſecond day of March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight.*

The proviſions contained in the following act will expire on the 10th day of *April* next, *viz.*

An Act for enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled "An Act for "facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one "thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the "funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time of patenting lands which "were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a "right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by "them occupied," paſſed the 21ſt day of *March*, 1789.

And that the proviſions contained in the following act will expire on the 1ſt day of *April* next, *viz.*

An Act further to continue an act, entituled "An Act to ſuſpend the ſale "of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein men"tioned," paſſed the 21ſt day of *September*, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That that part of the ſaid report reſpecting the act, entituled "*An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate*," be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *J. Stewart*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the ſaid report which reſpects the act, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the "year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of "the unfunded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time of patenting lands "which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a "right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by "them occupied*," be referred to Mr. *Marſhall*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the ſaid report which reſpects the act, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other "purpoſes therein mentioned*," be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Ryerſon*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the report which reſpects the act, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate*," be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of ſaid report be poſtponed.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The motion made yeſterday by Mr. *Vaux,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,* reſpecting the apprehending murderers, burglars and highway robbers, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Wright,* ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall,* in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to iſſue certificates to *Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham* and *Andrew Sweringen,* for their reſpective ſhares of the whole of the money recovered of them by Captain *Thomas Bay* and company, together with coſts of ſuit; the ſaid certificates to bear intereſt from the time the money was recovered.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, 19*th November,* 1789.

SIR,

COUNCIL requeſt a conference with a committee of the General Aſſembly on the ſubjects of the depreciation and donation lands.

I have the honor to be,
With the greateſt reſpect,
SIR,
Your obedient and humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

The Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Baird* be a committee, to confer with Council on the ſubjects of ſaid letter, and report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the quality of pot and pearl aſhes,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting preſent relief to the wounded* "*and diſabled ſoldiers, who have received penſions from this ſtate,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Britton* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to affix the ſeal to ſuch laws as may be enacted by this Houſe.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the ſecurity to be given by the "Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 20, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Iſaac Hicks*, *Sarah Hicks*, *Auguſtine Willett*, on behalf of his wife *Elizabeth* (late *Elizabeth Hicks)* and *Joſeph Rodman Hicks*, all of *Bucks* county, children and legal repreſentatives of *Gilbert Hicks*, late of the ſaid county, Eſquire, attainted of high treaſon, was read, ſetting forth, that their ſaid father was, in conſequence of his intermarriage with the petitioners mother, ſeiſed and poſſeſſed of a conſiderable eſtate, both real and perſonal, which, in caſe of the death of their ſaid father before his attainder, would have lawfully deſcended to them, but by reaſon of the attainder aforeſaid the ſame was confiſcated to and ſold for the uſe of the commonwealth; therefore praying the monies ariſing from the ſales aforeſaid may be paid to them, in conſideration of their juſt and natural claim, or ſuch other relief granted them, as this Houſe may deem proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants and freeholders of *Thornbury*, in the county of *Delaware*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act for erecting the ſaid county, and praying they may be re-annexed to the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Ap-" peal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in caſes " of militia fines*," and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 11th inſtant, on the petition of *John Cart*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, to whom was referred the petition of *John Cart*, report——

That they have examined the claim of the petitioner reſpecting the lots mentioned in his petition, and given him an opportunity of making ſuch perſonal explanation as he thought proper, by which your committee diſcovered that he, ſince his firſt petition, and report on ſaid petition made to a former Houſe on the 24th day of *February*, 1789, has found thoſe lots he has been ſearching for unoccupied, and is at this time in actual poſſeſſion of them, excepting a ſmall part, which he ſays has been ſold by a certain *John Reed*, deceaſed: Therefore your committee think it improper to proceed further in the buſineſs, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioner, for ſupplying him with a deed, ought not to be complied with, as his claim is properly cognizable in the courts of law: They therefore offer a reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *John Cart* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 18th, on the petitions of *Blackall William Ball, Peter Phelen* and *William Clingan,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, to whom were referred the petitions of *Blackall William Ball, Peter Phelen* and *William Clingan,* report——

That they have had the ſubject under conſideration, and are of opinion that a general law ought to be paſſed to relieve ſuch perſons as have loſt certificates of this ſtate, under proper regulations and reſtrictions: Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to give relief to ſuch perſons as have *bona fide* loſt certificates of this ſtate, ſuch perſons making proof and giving ſecurities as may by ſaid law be directed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 16th, on the petition of *Alexander Lewis, James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Alexander Lewis, James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell,* ſetting forth, that at *Auguſt* term 1785, *Joſeph Miller,* Eſq; was convicted of keeping a tippling-houſe; *Auguſt* 1786, convicted of ſmuggling and vending liquors contrary to the laws of this ſtate; and likewiſe at *May* term 1788 indicted by the Grand Jury, and *Auguſt* following found guilty of aiding and abetting *William Robinſon,* one of the collectors of taxes in and for the county of *Lancaſter,* in making his eſcape with a conſiderable ſum of public money, but the verdict of the jury in this caſe was deemed by the court improper, and ſet aſide, and the Attorney-General thereupon entered a *noli proſequi.* Two of the above charges appear to your committee eſtabliſhed by certificates from *John Hubley,* Eſquire, Clerk of the general court of Quarter Seſſions of the Peace for the county of *Lancaſter,* &c. Therefore your committee beg leave to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That *Joſeph Miller,* being charged with miſconduct in keeping a tippling-houſe, and aiding, abetting and aſſiſting *William Robinſon,* one of the collectors of taxes in and for the county of *Lancaſter,* to make his eſcape with a ſum of public money, appear before this Houſe, and ſhew cauſe why he ſhould not be removed from his office of Juſtice of the Peace of the ſaid county of *Lancaſter.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 16th, on the petition of the Commiſſioners and Treaſurer of the county of *Huntingdon,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Commiſſioners and Treaſurer of *Huntingdon* county, praying that they may be enabled by law to ſettle and recover a due proportion of the county taxes outſtanding, and the monies ariſing from the ſale of ſtray horſes in the county of *Bedford,* before the diviſion of the ſaid county, beg leave to report——

That the prayer of the ſaid petition is reaſonable, and ought to be complied with: They ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable the Commiſſioners of the county of *Huntingdon* to ſettle and recover a due proportion of the taxes formerly laid in the county of *Bedford,* and yet outſtanding, after deducting all expences and appropriations to which they may be ſubject, and alſo a due proportion of the monies ariſing from the ſale of ſtray horſes in the county of *Bedford*, previous to the diviſion thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *November* 18th, the report of the committee on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county reſpecting ſtray horſes, *&c.* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz,*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county reſpecting ſtray horſes, cows, *&c.* and the law for regulating rangers, beg leave to report——

That having duly conſidered the ſubject of the prayer of the petition, are of opinion that ſuitable ways ſhould be provided by law for the regular taking up, publiſhing and diſpoſing of ſtray horſes, cattle and ſheep, and alſo to prevent ſmall ſized ſtone-horſes running at large, and a mode of procedure preſcribed for the ſame: Wherefore they offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes mentioned in the foregoing report, and to repeal an act, entituled "*An* "*Act to improve the breed of horſes, and regulate rangers,*" paſſed the 9th day of *May*, 1724.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Bartholomew Van Heer*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That Captain *Bartholomew Van Heer* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The motion made by Mr. *Wright*, ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to iſſue certificates to *Gabriel Coxe*, *George Vallendigham* and *Andrew Sweringen*, for their reſpective ſhares of the money received of them by Captain *Thomas Bay* and company, together with coſts of ſuit; the certificates to bear intereſt from the time the money was recovered.

Ordered, That Mr. *Balliot*, Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Marſhall* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Manahan* and *Newberry* townſhips, in the county of *York*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Manahan* and *Newberry* townſhips, in the county of *York*, ought not to be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, read *November* 16th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer for the ſum of   *pounds*, to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* appropriated for claims and improvements by an act paſſed the 28th day of *September*, 1789, to be laid out in repairing that part of the road over the *Blue-Mountain*, commonly called *Croghan's Gap* and *White's Narrows.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Paul,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Miley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The petition of 43 draymen of the city of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, read *November* 13th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, for the ſum of *eleven hundred and twenty-five pounds,* together with intereſt thereon from the date of the aſſumption of the ſaid debt by the State Treaſurer until payment ſhall be made, which ſum and intereſt ſhall be in full of their claims, to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* ſpecially appropriated by law for the payment of claims, as ſoon as that fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive; and that a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the purpoſe aforeſaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Baird* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *A* " *Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouth weſtern " part of the county of *Cumberland* into a new county," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of the* " *General Aſſembly of this ſtate, as authoriſes and directs the receiving of cer-* " *tificates of the United States in payment of lands purchaſed or to be pur-* " *chaſed of this ſtate,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to continue an act, entituled* " An Act for " opening and amending the public roads and highways within this pro- " vince," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to limit the time of exhibiting claims againſt* " *the ſtate, for ſupplies furniſhed or ſervices rendered during the late war,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for granting preſent relief to the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers, who have received penſions from this ſtate.*

An ACT *to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, as authoriſes and directs the receiving of certificates of the United States in payment of lands purchaſed or to be purchaſed of this ſtate.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 21, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Iſaac Hicks* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on claims appointed *November* 3d inſtant, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Markley,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 19th, to confer with Council on the ſubjects of the donation and depreciation lands, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council upon the ſubjects contained in their letter of the 19th inſtant, made report——

That they had performed the duties aſſigned to them: That the propoſition which Council have in view is, to open the Land-office for the ſale of the lands lying on *French-creek,* and in the neighbourhood of *Lake Erie,* from which it is conceived the ſtate will not only derive the advantage of ſinking a great part of the public debt, but its population will be beneficially increaſed, and a door be eventually opened for ſecuring the fur trade to the inhabitants of *Pennſylvania*: It has likewiſe been requeſted by Council, that your committee ſhould inform the Houſe that there are many valuable tracts unlocated in the donation lands, for which no applications from the ſoldiers have been lately made, and that the mode of diſpoſing of the depreciation lands is ſo unſatisfactory, that no ſales have been made for ſome time: Which is ſubmitted by the committee to the conſideration of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on the ſubject of granting relocating warrants, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to take into their conſideration the ſubject of relocating warrants, and to report a bill, if they thought proper, beg leave to report——

That it appears perfectly reaſonable to your committee, that where money has been paid to the ſtate and warrants taken out for lands ſuppoſed to be vacant, which are afterwards diſcovered to have been previouſly located by others, ſuch perſons ſhould be entitled to receive new or re-locating warrants, authoriſing ſurveys to be made of other tracts:

Your committee has beſtowed upon the ſubject of the petition of Meſſieurs *Millegan* and *Lenox* all the attention which a matter ſo important required, and conceiving that they ſhould diſcharge their duty in this inſtance by bringing the ſubject regularly before the conſideration of the Houſe, a clauſe is for that purpoſe inſerted in the bill they were authoriſed to frame: They therefore beg leave to report a bill, to be entituled "*An Act* "*to enable the Land-officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes therein* "*deſcribed.*"

And the ſaid bill was thereupon read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *John Cart*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time:

Whereupon, *Reſolved*, That *John Cart* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the reſolution therein contained,

It was moved by Mr. *Ryerſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to provide ſuitable ways for the regular taking up, publiſhing and diſpoſing of ſtray horſes, cattle and ſheep, and to prevent ſmall ſized ſtone-horſes running at large, with a mode of procedure reſpecting the ſame; alſo to repeal an act, entituled "*An Act to improve the breed of horſes, and regulate rangers,*" paſſed the 9th day of *May*, 1724.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-*"*ſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the propoſed reſolution adopted: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Baird*, Mr. *Marſhall*, Mr. *Ryerſon*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Finley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably thereto.

The report on the petition of *Alexander Lewis*, *James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report on the petitions of *Blackall William Ball*, *Peter Phelen* and *William Clingan*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to give relief to ſuch perſons as have loſt certificates of this ſtate, ſuch perſons making proof and giving ſecurities as may by ſaid law be directed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain bills of credit there-*"*in mentioned; and alſo to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain* "*certificates iſſued for the purchaſe of horſes, proviſions and other articles, by* "*virtue of an act of General Aſſembly paſſed on the firſt day of* June, *in the* "*year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act directing the payment of the accounts of ſun-*"*dry Deputy-Surveyors of the depreciation lands,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to limit the time of exhibiting claims againſt* "*the ſtate, for ſupplies furniſhed or ſervices rendered during the late war,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*, *Reſolved*, That one hundred copies of the ſaid act be printed, and that the Clerk be directed to tranſmit copies thereof to the Prothonotary of each county court of common pleas for this ſtate.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, November 23, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the *Pennſylvania* Society for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and the relief of free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from the Commiſſioners for the county of *Philadelphia* was read, referring to their memorial read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 9th laſt, and praying ſuch a law may be paſſed, as will leave them in no doubt what ought to be their future conduct with reſpect to laying out and paying for public roads.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from ſeveral of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* was read, praying that a bill may be paſſed, obliging the public officers of ſaid county to hold their offices and keep all public records at ſuch place, as is by law eſtabliſhed for holding the courts for the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Miniſter, Truſtees and Members of the Methodiſt Eſpiſcopal Church in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for incorporating their ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 19th, reſpecting the act, entituled " *An Act for enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* " An Act for " facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one " thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the " funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which " were located before the declaration of independence, and for giving a " right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by " them occupied," made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the conſideration of the act, entituled " *An Act for enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* " An Act " for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year " one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the " funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which " were located before the declaration of independence, and for giving a " right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by " them occupied," report——

That however neceſſary it may have been heretofore, from the impoveriſhed and diſtreſſed ſtate of the country, to extend the indulgencies granted by the act, entituled " *An Act for enlarging the time limited by the act,* " *entituled* " An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit " emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for

" redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time " for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independence, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for " procuring warrants for lands by them occupied," and thoſe which preceded it from time to time, the circumſtances which created ſuch neceſſity have now in a meaſure ceaſed, and your committee are of opinion that the public good requires that the payments and other duties, which have been ſuſpended by the ſaid act, ought to be performed without further delay; but in conſideration that ſome of the delinquents, who have been thus indulged, may have neglected to make the neceſſary preparation for performing the ſaid duties, in expectation that a further time would be given them for that purpoſe, your committee recommend that ſome further time be given, but that a period be now fixed for the final determination of ſuch delay: Your committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, further to extend the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independence, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied, until the day of and no longer.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with Council on the ſubjects of the donation and depreciation lands, read *November* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Baird*, to report what they think proper thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to reimburſe* Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham *and* Andrew Sweringen, *for monies advanced by them in defence of the frontiers of* Waſhington *county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to provide for the renewal of certificates in the caſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to provide for the wages of the members of the State Convention, and to* " *defray the expences of holding the ſame*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the officers of the Land-office to iſſue* " *warrants of re-location in the caſes therein deſcribed*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain bills of credit therein mentioned, and alſo to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain certificates iſſued for the purchaſe of horſes,* " *proviſions and other articles, by virtue of an act of General Aſſembly paſſed* " *on the firſt day of* June, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred* " *and eighty*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 24, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, reſiding in the election diſtrict known by the name of *Bentley's* *Diſtrict*, was read, praying they may by law be authoriſed to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Thomas Hill.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Jones,* collector of taxes within the townſhip of *Blockley,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of *twenty-two pounds four ſhillings and ſeven-pence,* money by him collected in payment of public taxes, and praying he may be exonerated from the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Miniſter, Truſtees and Members of the Methodiſt Epiſcopal church in the city of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

The petition of the *Pennſylvania* Society for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and the relief of free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The memorial and petition of the Commiſſioners for the county of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Aſhmead,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Downing,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Nevil,* Mr. *Rhea* and Mr. *Riley,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *William Haſſall,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The petition of *William Haſſall* having been duly conſidered by the committee to whom it was referred, they beg leave to report thereon——

That it appears the petitioner was a ſtorekeeper in the general hoſpital of the army of the United States from the firſt day of *October,* 1780, until the cloſe of the late war; that whatever right to half pay, or to a commutation for half pay, the petitioner may have, it muſt be from the United States.

Without prejudice to his claims againſt the United States, the committee therefore beg leave to report the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *William Haſſall* have leave to withdraw his petition.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *William Haſſall* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee reſpecting the act, entituled " *An Act for* " *enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* " An Act for facilitating the " redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven " hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of "this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which were located "before the declaration of independence, and for giving a right of pre-"emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occu-"pied," read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed on the meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, to arrange the ſubject matters contained in the ſaid meſſage, poſtponed *November* 5th: Whereupon

On motion of Mr. *Boys,* ſeconded by Mr. *Aſhmead,*

Reſolved, That the amendments propoſed to be added to the conſtitution of the United States be referred to a committee of the whole.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,*

Reſolved, That this Houſe will on *Friday* next reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution, and that it be the order for the day.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for granting the ſum of pounds, towards repairing a road acroſs "the Blue-Mountain, in the county of* Cumberland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An "Act for the payment of the claims of* Turnbull, Marmie *and Company,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the renewal of certificates in "the caſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the wages of the members of "the State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 25, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 866 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Heidelberg, Manheim, Berwick, Huntingdon,* part of *Manahan,* and *Warrington,* in the county of *York,* were read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Erb,* Mr. *Ludwig,* Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Kiley,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Turkey-foot* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* was read, praying they may be annexed to the county of *Fayette.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jonas Philips* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to continue in force the act of Aſſembly regulating ſales by* "*public auction, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and the ſupplement thereto, paſſed the 19th day of *March* laſt, and praying the ſame may be repealed, or that he may be permitted to vend goods by public auction, upon giving ſecurity and paying the duties required by the ſaid act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Samuel Dellap*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, Bookſeller, was read, ſuggeſting, that the free ſale of books by auction would tend to encourage literature; therefore praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, reſiding in the election diſtrict known by the name of *Bentley*'s *Diſtrict*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Waſhington*, to report thereon.

The petition of *David Jones*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Thornbury*, in the county of *Delaware*, read *November* 20th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Rhea*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*, read *November* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Paul*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin* counties, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſundry inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin*, beg leave to report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of the ſaid petition reſpecting a road at the end of *Peter*'s mountain, in *Dauphin* county, and although your committee think good roads an object worthy of the attention of the legiſlature, and will always tend to promote the proſperity and happineſs of the ſtate, yet your committee are induced to believe, that to grant the prayer of the petitioners at this time would be improper, as it appears, by good authority, there is a good road and ferry kept near the end of *Peter*'s mountain, ſufficient to accommodate all the inhabitants and travellers croſſing the river *Suſquehanna* at that place: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioners cannot be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of the Commiſſioners and Treaſurer for the county of *Huntingdon*, read *November* 20th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable the Commiſſioners of the county of *Huntingdon* to ſettle and recover a due proportion of the taxes formerly laid in the county of *Bedford,* and yet outſtanding, after deducting all expences and appropriations to which they may be ſubject, and alſo a due proportion of the monies ariſing from the ſale of ſtray horſes in the county of *Bedford,* previous to the diviſion thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Baird* and Mr. *D. Stewart* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate a ſociety, by the name of* "*The* Pennſylvania *Society* "*for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and for the relief of free Negroes un*"*lawfully held in bondage, and for improving the condition of the* African *race,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Miniſter, Truſtees and Members of the Me*"*thodiſt Epiſcopal Church (known by the name of* Saint George's *Church) in* "*the city of* Philadelphia, *in the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to defray the expences of holding the State* "*Convention,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Mr. *Finley,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the* "*county of* Fayette *into election diſtricts;*" and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting the ſum of* *pounds,* "*towards repairing a road acroſs the Blue-Mountain, in the county of* Cumber"land," was read the ſecond time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Ryerſon,* in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a ſuitable number of copies of every bill read in this Houſe be printed, and diſtributed among the members previous to the ſecond reading thereof, unleſs in caſes of ſudden neceſſity, when this rule may at the pleaſure of the Houſe be diſpenſed with; and that nothing in this reſolve contained ſhall prevent the publication of ſuch bills for the conſideration of the people, as directed by the conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to defray the expences of holding the State* "*Convention,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds,* in favor of *Peter Zachary Lloyd,* Eſquire, to pay the contingent expences of this Houſe, to be accounted for by him to the committee of accounts.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Friday* next, A. M.

Friday, November 27, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county was read, praying an act may be paſſed, declaring *Chartier*'s creek to be a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial and petition of divers officers in the late *American* Military Hoſpital, read *Auguſt* 26th laſt, was taken off the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of *Samuel Dellap,* read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Jonas Philips,* read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The motion made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Ryerſon, November* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a ſuitable number of copies of every bill read in this Houſe be printed, and diſtributed amongſt the members previous to the ſecond reading thereof, unleſs in caſes of ſudden neceſſity, when this rule may at the pleaſure of the Houſe be diſpenſed with; and that nothing in this reſolve contained ſhall prevent the publication of ſuch bills for the conſideration of the people, as directed by the conſtitution.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Turkey-foot* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Marſhall,* Mr. *D. Stewart* and Mr. *Nevil,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt, on the remonſtrance and petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Montgomery* county, report——

That they have conſidered the contents of the ſaid petition, and, ſo far as they have had an opportunity of judging, are of opinion that the commiſſioners of *Montgomery* county have extended their indulgences beyond the intention of the law. With reſpect to that part of the petition which requeſts a repeal of the act complained of, they are of opinion the act is defective, in as much as no line is laid down for the government of the commiſſioners, and, of courſe, that if the proviſions in it continued an object of the interference of the Legiſlature of this ſtate, that it ought to be repealed.

Nevertheleſs, as, from the ſtatement made by the petitioners themſelves, it is probable that few objects of that act now remain, as the conduct of the commiſſioners, if partial, oppreſſive or illegal, is liable to legal proceſs and enquiry, and as the militia is now become an object of fœderal regulation, they are of opinion that the petitioners ſhould have leave to withdraw their petition: Therefore they report,

That the ſaid petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle* be added to the committee appointed *November* 5th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the ſalaries of the officers of the land-office.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, in order to take into conſideration the amendments propoſed by Congreſs to the conſtitution of the United States.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and Mr. *Wynkoop* was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject,

The Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported that they had made ſome progreſs in the buſineſs, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again on *Monday* next, in the afternoon.

Leave was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 28, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the State Convention was read, with its encloſure, as follows, *viz.*

IN CONVENTION, *Philadelphia, November 28th,* 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to encloſe to you a reſolve of the Convention of the twenty-ſeventh inſtant, which I requeſt you to lay before the General Aſſembly.

With great reſpect,
I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

The Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

IN CONVENTION,

FRIDAY, *November 27th,* 1789. A. M.

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wilſon,*

RESOLVED, that the General Aſſembly be requeſted to furniſh this Convention with two ſets of the acts and minutes of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, to be returned at the end of the preſent ſeſſion of the ſaid Convention; and alſo that they permit this Convention to have the uſe of the library during the ſaid ſeſſion.

Extract from the Minutes,

JOS. REDMAN, *Secretary.*

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the requeſt contained in the ſaid reſolution be complied with.

A petition from the Commiſſioners of *Dauphin* county, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 9th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from *James Hockley,* one of the Commiſſioners appointed by law for clearing the river *Schuylkill* and improving the navigation thereof, was read, praying he may be reimburſed certain ſums of money by him expended in ſaid buſineſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An "Act to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the land-"office,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to *Dunlap* and *Claypoole* for printing for this Houſe, and for ſix ſets of their news-papers for one year, the ſum of *twenty-four pounds three ſhillings and nine pence*: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* for the ſum of *twenty-four pounds three ſhillings and nine pence,* in full of their account.

The committee on ways and means made report in part, *viz.*

A letter from the Regiſter-General, together with a ſtatement of the public accounts from the 1ſt day of *September,* 1788, to the 30th day of *September,* 1789, taken from the books of the Regiſter-General, which letter was read, as follows, *viz.*

REGISTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *November 24th,* 1789.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of laying before the committee of ways and means a ſtatement of the public accounts from the 1ſt of *September,* 1788, to the 30th of *September,* 1789, incluſive, taken from the books of this office, which are made up and balanced to that time. The ſtatement has been delayed, upon an expectation of receiving from the Comptroller-General ſome neceſſary documents, for the want of which I am obliged to lay it before the committee in a more imperfect ſtate than I could wiſh. It does not comprehend a ſtate of the accounts between this commonwealth and the

United States, the amount of the new-loan, funded debt, or depreciation certificates outſtanding, the balances of the different emiſſions of paper money unredeemed, the arrears of continental and ſtate money taxes, and of the debts and engagements due to and from this ſtate, previous to the 28th of *March* laſt. Until theſe different objects are adjuſted in the books of the Comptroller-General, and the balances regularly furniſhed to this office, it would be improper in me to hazard any ſtatement of them, as it might lead to errors not eaſily remedied hereafter.

The Treaſurer's accounts of continental and paper money tranſactions for the years 1788 and 1789 are under examination. I ſhall have a ſtate of them ready to lay before you in a day or two.

I have from the Treaſurer's accounts drawn out a ſtate of the taxes due by the different counties, including half the ſupplies of 1781, and the taxes of 1789, to the 30th of *September*, balance then outſtanding £ 311580 16 9; the exonerations to *Cumberland* county, for the townſhips of *Wayne* and *Derry*, for 1781 and 1782, per act of 27th of *September*, 1788, and to *Waſhington* county, per act of 3d of *October*, 1788, will appear to the credit of theſe counties, when poſſeſſed of the amount; and alſo the taxes received from non-reſidents of different counties, when the years can be aſcertained.

The carriage-tax, if collected, has been indiſcriminately paid by County Treaſurers with the other taxes, ſave one inſtance the laſt year. Its produce has been but trifling, and cannot, as the law laying this tax has been repealed, be counted upon.

The militia fund appears greatly deficient. The claims on it for payments already made from other funds, warrants iſſued ſince the 10th of *April* unpaid, and penſions to widows and families of militia officers and privates, amount to £ 4636 2 3, per ſtatement, beſide what remain of the warrants iſſued before the 10th of *April* unpaid. If a fair concluſion may be drawn of the probable produce of this fund from the laſt year's accounts, it will prove very deficient, as the fines collected do not appear to be equal to the expences incurred in exerciſing the militia; other proviſion will therefore be neceſſary, or the claims remain unſatisfied.

From the accounts of the late Treaſurer it appears, that the ſpecial appropriations have not been always adhered to, but the proceeds of one fund have been applied to the diſcharge of the claims upon another. This circumſtance is attended with many inconveniencies, and, among others, increaſed the difficulty in ſtating and ſettling the treaſury accounts. I therefore beg leave to ſuggeſt, whether it may not be neceſſary that the preſent Treaſurer be inſtructed to apply the firſt monies he may receive from the revenues, for which advances have been made, to reimburſe the monies uſed belonging to other funds, in order that they may be enabled to diſcharge the claims on them for which they have been ſpecially appropriated. In the eſtimate of the expences of government for the enſuing year, I have made my calculations, where they were not aſcertained by law, in proportion to the laſt year; and in crediting the revenues appropriated for this purpoſe, obſerved the ſame rule. This deficiency will be fully made up from the protecting duties due from the impoſt, which will be placed to the credit of this account, when the collector of the cuſtoms accounts are ſettled.

In the eſtimate of the general claims on government, and the revenues to diſcharge the ſame, a deficiency of £ 85706 14 8 will appear, excluſive of a balance due the late Proprietaries on five inſtallments, due the 3d of *September*, 1788, which will amount to above £ 120000, as the payments made will amount to little more than the intereſt due thereon, per acts of 27th *November*, 1779, 9th *February*, 1785, and 28th *March*, 1787.

I have credited the amount of a year's taxes for 1790, which is more than the whole taxes produced laſt year; alſo the probable amount of the balance due on the impoſt, eſtimated, from the beſt information I can procure, at £ 35000. I have not credited in the eſtimate any thing from the *Virginia* grants, there being but little to be expected from that ſource. The Loan-Office of £ 150000 principal being nearly liberated from the redemption of the dollar money of 1ſt June, 1780, 35091 dollars principal of that money having been exchanged for money of *March* 1785, counted and burnt by the committee, the balance outſtanding is very ſmall. The principal and intereſt due on this fund may be applied to other purpoſes; but it is too ſlow in its operation to yield any immediate relief.

The deficiency of the exciſe in the payment of intereſt on depreciation certificates will be fully made up, as there are conſiderable ſums outſtanding on the exciſe; and the amount of depreciation certificates will probably be much reduced by the Land-Office, owing to the late law preventing the receipt of continental certificates in payment of lands.

I was furniſhed yeſterday from the Comptroller's office with a liſt of ſeveral balances due to and from the commonwealth by ſeveral individuals, ſtated as in part. I apprehend it is abſolutely neceſſary that the books of that office ſhould firſt be ſettled up to the 28th of *March* laſt, and a balance ſheet drawn out from the whole, before the balances can be transferred into the books of this office.

I ſhall be ready to attend the committee, to give any further information in my power.

I am, with great reſpect,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient, moſt humble ſervant,

JOHN DONNALDSON.

FRANCIS GURNEY, *Eſquire, Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means.*

STATEMENT of the PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, from the firſt of *September*, 1788, to the thirtieth of *September*, 1789, taken from the Books of the Regiſter-General's Office.

Dr. *The expences of government from the firſt of September* 1788, *to the thirtieth of September* 1789, *and the funds ſpecially appropriated for the ſupport thereof.* Cr.

CIVIL liſt, conſiſting of ſalary to the Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the ſtate, pay and mileage of members of Council, and door-keeper's wages, from the 1ſt of September 1788 to the 28th March 1789,	£ 4232	12	4			
Ditto, from the 28th March 1789 to the 30th of September 1789, incluſive, - -	2026	10	0			
				£ 6259	2	4
Pay and mileage of members of Aſſembly, September ſeſſion 1788, - -	1902	18	6			
November ditto, - - -	1396	9	6			
March ditto 1789, - -	2679	10	0			
Clerks, ſergeant at arms and door-keeper, for the above, - - -	590	0	0			
Pay and mileage of members for September ſeſſion 1789,	2002	0	0			
Clerks, &c. &c. - -	202	0	0			
				8772	18	0
Comptroller-General, his ſalary before the 28th March,	400	0	0			
Ditto ſince, - -	400	0	0			
Ditto his clerk, before the 28th March, -	202	4	5			
Ditto ſince ditto, - -	100	0	0			
				1102	4	5
Regiſter-General, his ſalary, two quarters,	250	0	0			
Ditto for his clerk, - - -	35	7	6			
				285	7	6
Judge of Admiralty, his ſalary before 28th March, and four days on court of appeals, -	229	0	0			
Ditto two quarters ſince, at £ 300 per annum,	150	0	0			
				379	0	0
Treaſurer's commiſſions on paying and receiving the various funds that paſs the treaſury, - -				841	5	0
Carried forward, -				£ 17639	17	3

By a balance remaining in the Treaſury from 1788, -	£ 521	6	7
By this ſum from the general revenues of the ſtate, per act of 26th March 1789, - - - -	10000	0	0
By tax upon writs from 1ſt September 1788 to 30th September 1789,	1262	3	10
By ditto auction duties ditto, ditto,	1768	8	10
By ditto pleaſurable carriages ditto, ditto,	68	8	9
By balance from marriage and tavern licence money, ditto,	615	2	7
By intereſt from loan-office for 50000*l.* principal, ditto,	4567	2	8
By court fines and forfeitures, - -	194	11	2
By fees of land-office, Secretary of Council's fees, deducting the Surveyor and Receiver-General's ſalary, Secretaries to the land-office and Council, and their clerks, - -	2045	5	10
Balance deficient from theſe funds for ſupport of government,	3331	9	7
Carried forward, -	£ 24373	19	10

The expences of government, &c.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward -	£ 17639	17	3	*Brought forward,* -	£ 24373	19	10
Members of Congreſs, pay and mileage of the late members to Continental Congreſs, paid before the 28th March, -	1853	4	8				
Contingent expences, conſiſting of expreſs hire, advertiſing donation lands, fire wood and fitting up ſtove for Council, ringing bells, copies of debates of the Houſe, nails and cloth for table in Council Chamber, bringing Robert Elliot from Lancaſter, R. Martin's ſervices and expences in going to Wyoming, ſtationary for Council, ditto for Comptroller, and other expences of his office,	302	17	1				
William Montgomery, Eſquire, attendance as one of the Committee of Claims, - - -	37	0	0				
Ditto ditto in Council of Cenſors, - -	21	0	0				
Colonel Francis Mentzes, per act of 20th September 1788,	100	0	0				
Meſſieurs M'Crea, Riſk and Irwin, ſigning paper bills of credit,	40	16	0				
John M'Nair, a balance expended as agent to forfeited eſtates,	2	2	6				
James Chance, due him as ditto, - - -	1	3	4				
Henry Wynkoop, attending high court of errors and appeals,	6	0	0				
Civil officers of Northumberland county in 1775, -	25	2	3				
Pay and mileage of electors to chooſe the Preſident of the United States,	36	7	0				
Meſſrs. Hall and Sellers, Thomas Bradford, William Woodhouſe, Dunlap and Claypoole, Melchior Steiner, William Spotſwood, Michael Billmeyer, Daniel Humphreys, Francis Bailey, and Robert Aitken, for ſundry printing for the Houſe of Aſſembly and Council,	1626	18	6				
Sundry expences of the Houſe of Aſſembly, - -	225	0	0				
Judges expences in travelling the circuits, - -	108	16	2				
Invalid corps, pay and rations, - - -	1101	14	0				
Paid on warrants iſſued ſince the 10th of April 1789,—Matthew Irwin, Maſter of rolls; Dr. Franklin, poſtage while Preſident of the ſtate; locks for committee-room; removing John Franklin, and his board; removing and ſtorage of gun-powder; ſtationary for Comptroller and Regiſter's offices; Anthony Wright, for fire-works for the reception of the Preſident of the United States; E. Milne's expences ſurveying a forfeited eſtate; Hubley and Graydon's expences to Huntingdon; Snyder, as door-keeper to the drawing donation land lottery; Joſeph Lyons, going expreſs to New-York,	484	9	7				
Meſſrs. Hall and Sellers, Bradford, Oſwald, Billmeyer, and Bailey, ſundry printing, - - -	545	9	9				
Invalid corps, medicines and rations, - - -	105	8	8				
Expences of the Houſe of Aſſembly, - -	110	13	1				
	£ 24373	19	10		£ 24373	19	10

Warrants iſſued by the Supreme Executive Council from 10th April to 30th September 1789.

Dr.			Cr.	
To ſundry warrants paid by the treaſury, iſſued ſince the 10th April,		£ 10960 7 5	By ſundry warrants on the treaſury, iſſued by Council,	£ 14061 0 4
Balance, being warrants outſtanding in the hands of the parties, *viz.*				
Payable out of the militia fund, -	1122 11 9			
Penſions to officers and privates diſabled, &c.	87 6 0			
Ditto to widows and children of commiſſioned officers of Pennſylvania ſtate regiments, &c. -	42 3 9			
Intereſt on depreciation certificates, -	45 3 3			
Claims and improvements, marriage and tavern licence money, expences of government, and general revenues of the ſtate, - -	1803 8 2			
All of which are charged in the foregoing and following ſtatements.		3100 12 11		
		£ 14061 0 4		£ 14061 0 4

The monies ariſing from marriage and tavern licences, and the payment of the ſalaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Dr.			Cr.	
To the following warrants to the Judges of the Supreme Court.			By amount of marriage and tavern licences, from 1ſt September 1788 to 30th September 1789, - -	£ 3989 18 3
The hon. Thomas M'Kean, three quarters ſalary, due 25th March 1789, - -	750 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 25th June, - -	250 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 25th September, -	250 0 0			
		1250 0 0		
The hon. W. Aug. Atlee, two quarters ſalary, due 25th December 1788, - -	300 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 25th March 1789, -	150 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 25th June, - -	150 0 0			
		600 0 0		
The hon. George Bryan, three quarters ſalary, due 25th March 1789, - -	450 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 25th June, - -	150 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 25th September, -	150 0 0			
		750 0 0		
The hon. Jacob Ruſh, three quarters ſalary, due 18th March 1789, - -	450 0 0			
Ditto, one ditto, 18th June, - -	150 0 0			
Carried forward, -	£ 600 0 0	£ 2600 0 0	*Carried forward,* -	£ 3989 18 3

The monies ariſing from marriage and tavern licences, &c.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 600	0	0	£ 2600	0	0
The hon. Jacob Ruſh, one quarter's ſalary, due 18th September 1789,	150	0	0			
				750	0	0
Edward Burd, Eſquire, Prothonotary of the Supreme Court, for ſundry travelling expences of the Judges on the circuits,				24	15	8
To balance carried to the credit of the expences of government,				615	2	7
				£ 3989	18	3

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 3989	18	3
	£ 3989	18	3

Exciſe, and intereſt on depreciation certificates, to the payment of which the exciſe is ſpecially appropriated.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To intereſt on depreciation certificates, from 1ſt September 1788 to 30th September 1789,	£ 14095	10	0
	£ 14095	10	0

Cr.	£	s.	d.
By exciſe, from 1ſt September 1788 to 30th September 1789,	£ 13376	7	6
Balance deficient from this fund to new account,	719	2	6
	£ 14095	10	0

Claims and improvements, per act of March 26th, 1789.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To this ſum advanced Samuel Edie, Eſq; for the road from Cumberland to York through Black's Gap, per act of 27th March 1789,	£ 50	0	0
To ditto Evan Owen for the Neſcopeck road, per act of 27th March 1789,	100	0	0
To James Crawford, balance due for repairs on the Frankſtown and Conemaugh road,	3	0	0
To Smith, Silvers and Bogs, balance due on road from Cumberland to Fort Pitt,	5	7	0
To Jane Roberts, her annuity,	75	0	0
To David Redick, Eſq; balance due him for ſurveying the reſerved tract and two iſlands on the rivers Ohio and Allegeny,	33	0	8
To John Hewſon, firſt and ſecond inſtallments for the improvement of the callico printing manufactory, per act of 27th March 1789,	100	0	0
Carried over,	£ 366	7	8

Cr.	£	s.	d.
By General Revenues of the ſtate, for this ſum ſet apart for this purpoſe, per act of 26th March 1789,	£ 10000	0	0
Carried over,	£ 10000	0	0

Claims and improvements, &c.

Dr.			Cr.	
Brought over,		£ 366 7 8	*Brought over,*	£ 10000 0 0
To ſundry repairs to Mud-Iſland and bank, by the Comptroller-General's report, ſince the 28th March laſt,	505 16 8			
Deduct one year's rent,	30 0 0	475 16 8		
To Charles Biddle, Eſquire, paid for watch boxes, lamps, lamp poſts, painting and repairing lamps, watch coats, and three months pay to watchmen at the ſtate houſe, per act of the 27th March 1789,		144 5 5		
To lands purchaſed on Lake Erie; balance of Wiſtar and Aſton's account of goods ſupplied the commiſſioners,	425 3 10			
Generals Butler and Gibſon, for their account of expenditures and pay as Commiſſioners,	1079 6 6	1504 10 4		
To John Adlum, Eſquire, for his expences and ſervices in going to, returning from, and ſurveying the four following reſerved tracts, *viz.* one at the mouth of French creek, including Fort Franklin; one where Fort Le Beuf formerly ſtood; one at Le Prague iſland; one at the mouth of Conewago,		175 8 8		
To Meſſieurs. Colliday and Rakeſtraw, towards repairs of the ſtate-houſe, per reſolution of Houſe of Aſſembly 20th March laſt,		500 0 0		
To George Woods, Eſquire, for the purpoſe of laying out a road from Bedford to Fort Pitt, per act of 27th March 1789,		100 0 0		
To this ſum, ſpecially appropriated for the improvement of navigation, per act of 28th September 1789,		5000 0 0		
Balance remaining from this fund,		1733 11 3		
		£ 10000 0 0		£ 10000 0 0

Monies ſpecially appropriated for the improvement of inland navigation and roads, per act 28th September 1789.

Dr.		Cr.	
To balance remaining,	£ 5000 0 0	By claims and improvements, for this ſum ſet apart for the improvement of the navigation of the Suſquehanna above Wright's ferry, and Juniata, and their waters,	£ 2500 0 0
		Ditto of the Schuylkill, and its waters,	1000 0 0
		Ditto of the Delaware and Lehigh, and their waters,	1500 0 0
	£ 5000 0 0		£ 5000 0 0

Monies ariſing from the State Lottery.

Dr.		Cr.	
To Schuylkill Commiſſioners, for their pay and expences in ſurveying the river Schuylkill, payable out of this fund, -	£ 86 7 0	By Managers of ſtate lottery, for this ſum paid in by them,	£ 564 4 1
Balance, appropriated to the repairs of Jones's Lane, per act of 3d March 1788, - - - -	477 17 1		
	£ 564 4 1		£ 564 4 1

Funded Debt.

Dr.	Cr.	
Note. When the balance of the certificates outſtanding on the 28th March are furniſhed from the Comptroller's books, the amount will appear to the credit of this account.	By certificates iſſued ſince the 28th March 1789, for debts due by this ſtate, with intereſt from 1ſt July 1783, -	£ 2160 8 11

Tonnage Duties.

Dr.		Cr.	
To this ſum, a warrant from Council for one year's rent of the office for Wardens, - - -	£ 150 0 0	By balance in the Treaſurer's hands on his ſettlement September 1ſt, 1788, - - -	£ 1 7 0
To the Wardens of the Port, for this ſum drawn by them from tonnage duties, from 14th April to 30th September 1789, for which they are to account, - - -	3070 0 4	By Wardens of the Port, for this ſum paid into the treaſury from 1ſt September 1788 to 28th March 1789, - -	1370 9 9
Balance, - - - -	111 11 9	By ditto, from 28th March to 30th September 1789, -	1959 15 4
	£ 3331 12 1		£ 3331 12 1

Militia Fines.

Dr.			Cr.	
To balance overpaid by D. Rittenhouſe, Eſq; on his ſettlement the 1ſt September 1788, - - -		£ 235 11 1	By Abel Morgan, Eſq; Lieutenant of Montgomery county, for ſundry fines collected and monies received from the County Treaſurer, included in former ſettlements, - -	£ 901 11 6
To the following ſums paid in warrants iſſued before 10th April 1789,				
Hans Morriſon, Sub-Lieutenant of York, a balance,	16 12 6		By John Gloninger, Eſq; Lieutenant of Dauphin, a balance,	69 19 5
Carried over, -	£ 16 12 6	£ 235 11 1	*Carried over,* -	£ 971 10 11

Militia Fines.

Dr.			
Sums paid in warrants, &c. *Brought over,*		£ 16 12 6	£ 235 11 1
Joſeph Perkins, repairs of the public arms for city and liberties, -	678 14 5		
A. Wright, ditto artillery,	16 1 6		
J. Nicholſon, advanced by him for repairs to the artillery, -	30 17 5		
Col. Wm. Henry, advanced the 18th March to defray the expences of exerciſing the militia of the city and liberties,	322 8 2		
		1048 1 6	
Philip Beck, repairing arms for Dauphin,		30 13 8	
Jane Roſenburg, in part of a penſion due her as the widow of the Rev. John Roſenburg, Chaplain to Berks county militia, - -		100 0 0	
Sebaſtian Gitz, two caſks powder for the Montgomery militia, - -	14 1 3		
Robert Barnhill, his account for powder and flints for ditto, -	20 5 10		
		34 7 1	
Fred. Watts, Eſq; for ſtorage of public arms and accoutrements from April 1780 to end of the war,		15 0 0	
Zebulon Butler, of Luzerne, a balance, -		23 5 0	
			1267 19 9
			1503 10 10
To the following ſince the 28th March,			
Col. George Woods, Lieutenant of Bedford, a balance, -			36 7 6
Col. Jeremiah Talbot of ditto, - -			75 7 10
John Chambers, late Lieutenant of Northampton, ditto, -			23 19 7
Col. George Gibſon, Lieutenant of Cumberland, ditto, -			96 0 4
Col. Hugh Barclay, ditto of Bedford, ditto, - -			18 8 5
Chriſtian Beakly, repairing a gun carriage, - -			6 17 6
Abel Morgan, Lieutenant of Montgomery, ſundries diſburſed by him for the uſe of militia of ſaid county, including ſundry payments of the County Treaſurer included in former ſettlements from the 14th September 1784, - - -			910 3 3
To Benj. Elliot, Lieutenant of Huntingdon, a balance, -			12 13 9
To Wm. Henry, Lieutenant of city and liberties, advanced him on his own pay, and expences in exerciſing the militia of city and liberties, for which he is to account, - -			651 0 0
			£ 3334 9 0

	Cr.
Brought over -	£ 971 10 11
By John Baker, Eſq; fines from city and liberties, -	861 2 7
By Wm. M'Henry, Eſq; late of Bucks county, - -	5 18 11
By Francis Murray, Eſq; of ditto, - -	100 1 5
By John Weitzel, Eſq; of Northampton, a balance, - -	106 16 3
By Joſeph M'Clean, Eſq; of Montgomery, - - -	34 7 1
Balance deficient to anſwer the demands on theſe funds, -	1254 11 10
	£ 3334 9 0

General loan-office for £ 50000 principal, per act of 4th April, 1785.

Dr.				Cr.			
To principal ſum, loaned by the Truſtees,	£ 50000	0	0	By received before the 1ſt September 1788, from Truſtees of loan-office,	£ 6392	7	6
				By ditto, from ditto, to 28th March 1789,	4337	12	3
				By ditto, 28th March to 30th September ditto,	3480	3	7
				Balance outſtanding, on intereſt,	35789	16	8
	£ 50000	0	0		£ 50000	0	0

Monies ariſing from the loan-office of £ 50000 principal.

Dr.				Cr.			
To balance remaining in the treaſury on the 1ſt September 1788,	£ 3739	7	3	By bills of credit of March 1785, burnt by the Committee of Aſſembly October 4th 1788,	£ 4924	7	3
To received from 1ſt September 1788, to the 28th March 1789,	4337	12	3	By ditto, March 24th 1789,	3000	0	0
				Balance in the treaſury, 28th March 1789, to new account,	152	12	3
	£ 8076	19	6		£ 8076	19	6
To balance as above,	£ 152	12	3	Balance in the treaſury, September 30th 1789, to be burnt, in bills of credit of March 1785,	£ 3632	15	10
To received from Truſtees of loan-office, from the 28th March to 30th September 1789,	3480	3	7				
	£ 3632	15	10		£ 3632	15	10

Debts due by the ſtate, on accounts ſettled ſince the 28th March, 1789.

Dr.				Cr.
To ſundry balances, for which the parties are entitled to certificates, with intereſt from 1ſt July 1783,	£ 946	13	9	
To ditto, for which warrants will be iſſued on the treaſury, when demanded,	1242	6	4	
	£ 2189	0	1	

Bills of credit of 16th March, 1785.

Dr.

To this ſum redeemed before the 1ſt Sept. 1788,	£ 42653 0 3	
To ditto, in September 1788, -	20000 0 0	
To ditto, burnt by the Committee of Aſſembly, October 1788, - -	4924 7 3	
To ditto, March 1789, 3000*l.* Sept. do. 18827*l.* is	21827 0 0	
		89404 7 6
Balance to be redeemed, - - -		60595 12 6
		£ 150000 0 0

Cr.

By this ſum, emitted per act of 16th March 1785, -	£ 150000 0 0
	£ 150000 0 0

The general revenues of the ſtate, and the payments made therefrom,

Dr.

To a balance ſtated as overpaid by the Treaſurer in his account of September 1ſt 1788, for taxes of 1785, 1786, 1787 and 1788, -	£ 1309 18 6	
Deduct this ſum, ſtated to be in his hands, from taxes of 1781, 1782 and 1783, in ſettlement of 1ſt September 1788, - -	816 12 3	
		£ 493 6 3
To penſions to widows and children of commiſſioned officers of the Pennſylvania line, ſtate regiments, flying camp, and ſtate navy, who were killed, or died in actual ſervice during the late war,		1806 8 4
To ditto, to officers and privates who were diſabled in the ſervice of the United States during the late war, per act of 22d September 1785, - - - -		5020 14 3
To new emiſſion of dollar money of 1ſt June 1780, exchanged for money of 1785, delivered to the Committee of Aſſembly and burnt,		
Principal 35091 dollars,	13159 2 6	
Intereſt on ditto, paid,	4355 1 7	
		17514 4 1
To claims and improvements for this ſum, ſet apart per act of 26th March 1789, - - -		10000 0 0
To expences of government for this ſum, applied to ſaid purpoſe, per act of 26th March 1789, - -		10000 0 0
Carried forward, -		£ 44834 12 11

Cr.

By this ſum charged in the Treaſurer's accounts of 1788, but not allowed by the Comptroller-General in ſaid ſettlement, -			£ 441 15 6
By the following taxes, from 1ſt Sept. 1788, to 30th Sept. 1789.			
Of effective ſupplies for 1781, -		335 3 10	
Taxes,	of 1782, - -	10999 0 5	
Ditto,	of 1783, -	8409 10 9	
Ditto,	of 1785, - -	1635 17 9	
Ditto,	of 1786, -	4363 5 7	
Ditto,	of 1787, - -	11418 0 8	
Ditto,	of 1788, -	35467 4 6	
Ditto,	of 1789, - -	3813 0 0	
			76441 3 6
By impoſt from 1ſt Sept. 1788, to the 30th Sept. 1789, which includes the whole ſum paid into the treaſury within that period by Sharp Delany, Eſq; Collector of Cuſtoms,		46251 2 11	
A balance ſtated by the Treaſurer to be in his hands, on 1ſt September 1788, - -		15809 1 4	
			62060 4 3
By ſundry taxes received from non-reſidents, which, when the particular counties and years can be aſcertained, will appear at the credit of the proper account, - - -			1616 6 1
Carried forward, -			£ 140559 9 4

Dr. *The general revenues of the ſtate, &c.* Cr.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward, -				£ 44834	12	11
To bills of credit of March 1785, for this ſum, burnt by the Committees of Aſſembly, September 1788,	20000	0	0			
September 1789,	18827	0	0			
				38827	0	0
To intereſt on funded debt, from 1ſt Sept. 1788, to 30th ditto, 1789,				6297	16	1
To ditto, on new loan debt, from ditto, to ditto,				51259	0	6
To grant to the late Proprietors, paid John Penn, ſen. and John Penn, jun. on account of ſundry warrants iſſued by Council before the 10th April, - - -				3398	6	11
To the following payments made at the treaſury on warrants iſſued before the 10th April, viz.						
Joſeph Stiles, Commiſſary of military ſtores, - -				289	8	10
John Nicholſon, Eſq; advanced by him to Skinner, on account of his ſecond contract for clearing roads in Bedford county, - -	141	6	3			
Ditto, balance of firſt contract for ditto, -	409	3	6			
Ditto, in full of ſecond contract for ditto,	281	18	0			
				832	7	9
To Captain David Zeigler—recruiting ſervice,	41	5	0			
Ditto, advanced by John Nicholſon, Eſquire,	13	2	6			
				54	7	6
Widow of Col. William Henry, for caſh advanced by him, - - -	6	9	7			
His ſervices in Convention for regulating trade,	9	5	3			
One half of Britiſh merchandize ſeized at Lancaſter,	260	5	11			
				276	0	9
John Nicholſon, Eſquire, advanced by him to M. Hollenback, for ſupplies to Berks county militia, - -				13	11	0
J. Nicholſon and H. Drinker, in part of 1000*l.* granted by act of 28th March 1788, for opening roads in Northampton and Luzerne,				300	0	0
Benjamin Elicot, making a map of lands purchaſed on Lake Erie, - -	1	5	0			
Andrew Elicot, for two horſes loſt in the ſervice,	44	0	0			
Generals Richard Butler and John Gibſon, on account, ditto, - - -	60	0	0			
Wiſtar and Aſhton, on account of goods purchaſed for the Indians on Lake Erie, -	500	0	0			
				605	5	0
Carried over, -				£ 146987	17	3

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward, -	£ 140559	9	4
By ſale of lands, being a balance remaining in the treaſury on ſettlement of 1ſt September 1788; ariſing from ſales of a lot on Province-Iſland, from profit on three tracts bought in at Bedford, and ſold at the coffee-houſe, and monies from Virginia grants,	1451	13	8
By Virginia grants, from 1ſt Sept. 1788, to 30th Sept. 1789,	910	7	3
By claſs tax, ditto, ditto, -	49	15	0
	142971	5	3
By balance deficient on theſe funds for the year 1789, -	13310	18	9
Carried over, -	£ 156282	4	0

Dr. *The general revenues of the ſtate, &c.* Cr.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought over,				£ 146987	17	3
Andrew Elicot, balance due him as Commiſſioner for northern boundary,	197	19	3			
D. Rittenhouſe, in full for his ſervices in running the northern boundary,	281	12	6			
William M'Clay, Eſq; in full for ſurveying 16 tracts on warrants iſſued by act 10th March 1787,	55	6	4			
Richard Peters, Eſq; advanced for ſurveying Jones's lane,	3	0	0			
Samuel Edmonſton, ſurveying 10000 acres for Epiſcopal academy,	75	6	6			
Griffith Evans, ſurveying 200 acres donation lands,	1	10	0			
Major William Alexander, balance due him for ſurveying donation lands,	146	10	0			
Benjamin Lodge, for ditto,	131	10	0			
				892	14	7
Captain William Roſs, for ſecuring two rioters at Wyoming,	75	0	0			
Ditto, in part of the ſum allowed him by act 4th October 1788,	131	5	0			
Ditto, allowed for ſervices to the ſtate,	56	5	0			
George Roſs, Eſq; for the perſons who apprehended George Sinclair,	50	0	0			
Captain William Roſs, apprehending three rioters at Wyoming,	112	10	0			
Matthias Hollenback, ditto,	187	10	0			
				612	10	0
William Bradford, J. D. Sergeant and E. Tilghman, Eſqrs. a fee as counſel for the ſtate againſt Col. Thomas Procter, in the caſe of Province Iſland,				90	0	0
William Hamilton, arrears of ground-rent on barrack lots at Lancaſter,				110	1	3
John Mitchell, principal, with intereſt and coſt of ſuit, per decree of Supreme Court,				6286	6	8
Col. Samuel Miles, ditto,				106	9	2
Matthew and Elizabeth Wilſon, ditto,				10	16	3
Gunning Bedford and others, balance for erecting triumphal arch,				185	0	0
Robert Galbraith, for clearing and making good the road from Frankſtown to Loyal Hannon,				196	10	0
Carried forward,				£ 155478	5	2

	£	s.	d.
Brought over,	£ 156282	4	0
Carried forward,	£ 156282	4	0

Dr. *The general revenues of the ſtate, &c.* Cr.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 155478	5	2
Captain Thomas Robinſon, balance due him as late Captain of a company of rangers in Northumberland county, omitted March 5th, 1785,	281	10	4
Francis Bailey, for advertiſing non ſeated lands in Bucks, Bedford, Franklin, Fayette and Huntingdon counties,	94	4	6
John Hague, for introducing the carding machine, per act,	100	0	0
William Haller and Thomas Parry, in part of a balance due them as agents for ſale of confiſcated eſtates in Berks county,	42	5	5
Sundries, *viz.* for boarding, attending and medicines for J Franklin; managers of Pennſylvania Hoſpital, for two penſioners; John Truebury, for turner's work; Andrew Porter, for a horſe loſt in the ſervice; carriage of arms from Lancaſter to Wyoming; Frederick Antes, Eſq; a balance due him; Anthony Wright, for ordnance ſtores; bringing Geo. Sinclair to Philadelphia jail; Alexander M'Dowall, for ſecuring a deſerter; Timothy Pickering, a Balance; Joſeph Hubley, conducting 116 volunteers to camp in 1780,	285	18	7
	£ 156282	4	0

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 156282	4	0
	£ 156282	4	0

Dr. *New-Loan and Continental Certificates, exchanged for each other, per act of March 2d, 1789.* Cr.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To 1067 continental certificates paid in exchange for new-loan certificates, *Dolls.* 77513 24-90ths.	£ 29067	9	6
To ſundry certificates iſſued for the balance between the certificates,	71	6	10
To balance in favor of the State, being ſo much ſhort paid in the exchange,	0	10	11
	£ 29139	7	3

Cr.	£	s.	d.
By new-loan certificates, received in exchange for the continentals, now remaining in the hands of the Comptroller-General, 187 certificates,	£ 29139	7	3
	£ 29139	7	3

Dr. *Intereſt paid and received in indents, in the exchange of Continental and New-Loan Certificates, per act 2d March, 1789.* Cr.

Dr.	Dolls.
To intereſt on continental certificates delivered to 31ſt Dec. 1787,	*Dolls.* $21221\frac{49}{90}$
To ſurplus intereſt on new-loan certificates, received in exchange,	$649\frac{13}{90}$
	Dolls. $21870\frac{62}{90}$

Cr.	Dolls.
By amount of intereſt due on new loan certificates to 31ſt Dec. 1787,	*Dolls.* $8112\frac{34}{90}$
By this ſum loſt in the exchange in equalizing the intereſt,	$0\frac{74}{90}$
By bal. in indents, in the hands of J. Nicholſon, Eſq; Comp. Gen.	$13757\frac{44}{90}$
	Dolls. $21870\frac{62}{90}$

State of the Treaſury, September 30th, 1789.

Dr.		Cr.	
A balance belonging to the general loan-office of £ 50000 principal,	£ 3579 18 1	By this ſum overpaid on the monies ariſing from the exciſe, appropriated to the payment of intereſt on depreciation certificates,	£ 864 8 7
Ditto, tonnage duties, - -	95 9 9	By ditto, on the general revenues of the ſtate, &c. -	15025 19 1
Ditto, ſtate lottery, - - -	535 11 7	By ditto, on the expences of government, - -	481 9 6
Ditto, claims and improvements, - - -	2904 0 0	By ditto, on militia fines, - - -	398 6 10
Ditto, inland navigation and roads, - -	5000 0 0		
Balance due David Rittenhouſe, Eſq; on the general balance of his accounts, ſettled to the 30th September 1789, which ariſes from his not having credited the ſtate for monies received from ſales of city lots, &c. which will appear in his ſubſequent accounts; alſo intereſt on ſundry certificates entered to accommodate the parties, the intereſt being charged to the ſtate, though not paid at the time,	4655 4 7		
	£ 16770 4 0		£ 16770 4 0

Note. It muſt be obſerved, that the balances on theſe accounts will not always correſpond with the balances of the particular funds in the books of this office, as the warrants are charged when iſſued, and balances frequently credited before they reach the treaſury. The above are a ſtate of balances on the actual receipts and payments.

New-Loan Debt.

Dr.		Cr.	
To ſundries, for 187 new-loan certificates received by the Comptroller-General in exchange for continental certificates -	£ 29139 7 3	By certificates iſſued for the balances due the parties in exchange of certificates, - - - -	£ 71 6 10
		By the balance of new-loan certificates not redeemed, which will appear to this account when the Comptroller furniſhes the balances from his books.	
- -	£ 29139 7 3		

Continental certificates received from the land-office, or on loan.

Dr.		Cr.	
To balance of continental certificates on hand the 28th March laſt, which will appear to this account when the balances are furniſhed from the Comptroller's books.		By 1067 continental certificates paid in exchange for new-loan certificates, as above, - - *Dols.* $77513\frac{24}{90}$	£ 29067 9 6

Dr. *Indents received from the Treaſury of the United States, and balance of intereſt on Certificates exchanged.* Cr.

To balance on hand the 28th March laſt, and in poſſeſſion of the Comptroller-General, which will appear to this account, when the balances from his books are furniſhed.	
To this ſum, being the balance the Comptroller-General has received on equalizing the intereſt in the exchange of certificates,	*Dolls.* $13757\frac{44}{90}$

Dr. *Certificates granted for depreciation of pay of the officers and ſoldiers, per act 13th April 1782.* Cr.

By balance of theſe certificates remaining unredeemed, which will appear to this account, when the Comptroller-General furniſhes the balances from his books.

Dr. *The United States General Account.* Cr.

To ſundries brought to the debit of this account, which will be branched out under the different heads, when the balances are furniſhed of different accounts with the United States from the Comptroller's books, and to the debit of which account there are ſeveral ſums to be charged for penſions, &c. and monies advanced, for which the parties are to account, - -	£ 3326	9	8

Dr. *An Eſtimate of the expences of government, and the probable produce of the revenues appropriated thereto, for 1790.* Cr.

To the Civil Liſt.——The Executive.						
The Preſident of the ſtate, ſalary, -	1500	0	0			
Vice-Preſident, - -	500	0	0			
Secretary of Council and clerks, -	750	0	0			
Pay and mileage of members of Sup. Ex. Council,	3517	10	0			
Door-keeper to Council, -	182	10	0			
				£ 6450	0	0
Carried over, -				£ 6450	0	0

By this ſum appropriated by act of 26th March 1789 from the general revenues, - - - -	£ 10000	0	0
By tax on writs, eſtimated from the produce of laſt year, -	1200	0	0
By duties on vendue ſales, ditto, - -	1800	0	0
Fees of Land-Officers and Secretaries fees, including the ſalaries of the different officers payable out of this fund, charged per contra, whole amount, - - - - -	6000	0	0
Carried over, -	£ 19000	0	0

Eſtimate of the expences of government, &c.

Dr.		
Brought over -		£ 6450 0 0
The expence of three ſeſſions of Aſſembly, including Clerk, Sergeant at arms and Door-keeper,	6500 0 0	
Contingent expences of the Houſe, -	200 0 0	
Printing, - -	1750 0 0	8450 0 0
Judiciary and Law Department.		
Chief Juſtice, - -	1000 0 0	
Three Aſſiſtant Judges, each 600*l.* -	1800 0 0	
Attorney-General, - -	250 0 0	3050 0 0
Land-Officers.		
Secretary to the Land-Office, - -	800 0 0	
Surveyor-General, - -	800 0 0	
Receiver-General, - -	800 0 0	
Clerks, each 300*l.* - -	900 0 0	3300 0 0
Altho' the act of 29th Sept. 1787 expired 1ſt May 1789, yet it is preſumed they will be continued on the ſame terms.		
Treaſury.		
Treaſurer's commiſſions, eſtimated at - -		500 0 0
Comptroller-General's ſalary, - -	800 0 0	
His clerk, -	200 0 0	1000 0 0
Regiſter-General's ſalary, - -	500 0 0	
His clerk, - -	200 0 0	700 0 0
Loan-Office, Truſtees to, of 150000*l.* principal, per act of 13th March 1773, - -	150 0 0	
Ditto, Truſtees to, of 50000*l.* principal, per act 4th April 1785, - -	150 0 0	300 0 0
Judges of the Supreme Court, expences in travelling circuits,		150 0 0
Members of the Convention for the purpoſe of altering and amending the conſtitution, eſtimated at - -		4000 0 0
Deficiency from laſt year, - - -		3152 3 1
Sundry expences, including ſtationary for the different offices, firewood, &c. &c. which cannot be aſcertained, ſuppoſe -		847 16 11
		£ 31900 0 0

Cr.	
Brought over, -	£ 19000 0 0
Marriage and tavern licence money, including the Judges ſalary, to the payment of which it is ſpecially appropriated, and charged per contra, whole amount - - -	3250 0 0
Court fines and forfeitures, - - -	150 0 0
Intereſt from Loan-Office of £ 50000 principal, one year's intereſt on £ 35789 16 8 principal outſtanding, at ſix per cent. (beſides arrears of Intereſt,) - -	2147 7 10
Balance deficient from theſe funds to defray the eſtimated expences of government, but there is a part of the impoſt duties, called the protecting duties, which, when the Collector of the Cuſtoms accounts are ſettled, will be ſufficient for this deficiency, the protecting duties eſtimated at £ 7652 12 2, - -	7352 12 2
	£ 31900 0 0

Eſtimate of the general revenues of the ſtate, and the payments that will be required therefrom.

Dr.						
To expences of government, for this ſum appropriated per act of 26th March 1789,				£ 10000	0	0
To claims and improvements, per act ditto,				10000	0	0
To penſions to widows and children of commiſſioned officers of Pennſylvania line, flying camp and ſtate navy, who were killed or died in actual ſervice, eſtimated the ſame as laſt year,				1800	0	0
Ditto, balance eſtimated as due to the officers and privates diſabled in the ſervice per act of 22d September 1785, and limited to the 1ſt May 1789, per act March 27th 1789,				400	0	0
To intereſt on certificates iſſued for the funded debt of the ſtate, 1 year, eſtimated the ſame as laſt year, of which little more than one half was paid, averaged at one and a half year's due, there being as many iſſued ſince the 28th March as have been paid into the land-office,				18214	10	0
To intereſt due on new loan certificates, to compleat the four years up to April 10th 1789, per act of 27th March 1789, of which there is about an average of nine months due, there being but few of thoſe paid into the land-office, one year, eſtimated the ſame as laſt, at 111000*l.* nine months is				83250	0	0
The bills of credit of March 16th 1785 to be annually burnt, per act of ſame date,	20000	0	0			
Add deficiency of the laſt year,	1173	0	0			
				21173	0	0
To ſundry warrants iſſued before the 10th April 1789 unpaid, lying in the hands of the parties, balances to individuals unaſcertained, alſo rewards on proclamations, and ſundry other charges, that cannot be ſpecially provided for,				6851	11	3
To balance deficient from the laſt year's account,				13310	18	9
To annual inſtallment to the late Proprietaries, being the ſixth, due the 3d Sept. 1789, beſides a large balance on the five preceding inſtallments,				25000	0	0
				£ 190000	0	0

Cr.						
By annual tax for the year 1790, being as much as is paid in the courſe of a year out of the whole taxes,				£ 76945	17	6
By a balance eſtimated to be received from the impoſt to the 1ſt Auguſt 1789,	35000	0	0			
Deduct therefrom the deficiency, as ſtated on the expences of government, being the ſuppoſed amount of the protecting duties,	7652	12	2			
				27347	7	10
				104293	5	4
Deficient from theſe funds to diſcharge the claims againſt the ſtate for the enſuing year,				85706	14	8
				£ 190000	0	0

Militia Fines.

Dr.			Cr.
To deficiency of laſt year, - -		£ 1254 11 10	The fines collected by the Lieutenants do not appear to be equal to their expenditures, as in every inſtance (ſave one) of accounts ſettled with them ſince the 28th March, the balance has been in their favor. Suppoſe them equal, the balance per contra is to be provided for.
Penſions to widows and children of militia officers and privates who were ſlain or died of the wounds received in battle in public ſervice during the late war, payable out of the militia fines, which are appropriated for that purpoſe, eſtimated laſt year,	1597 0 0		
Of which only paid, - -	100 0 0		
	1497 0 0		
For the current year ſuppoſe the ſame as laſt,	1597 0 0		
		3094 0 0	
Add ſundry warrants in favor of Nicholſon, Perkins and Morrow, for repairing arms, ordered to be paid out of claims and improvements, to be refunded out of this fund, - -		287 10 5	
		£ 4636 2 3	

State of deficiencies, and arrearages of revenues from which they may be made up.

Dr.		Cr.	
To deficiency of general revenues, - -	£ 85706 14 8	By arrearages of taxes, including half the effective ſupplies of 1781, to the 30th September 1789, per account, -	£ 311580 16 9
To ditto of militia fund, - - -	4636 2 3		
	£ 90342 16 11		

But as leſs than a ſingle year's taxes was collected out of the whole taxes laſt year, and that ſum already credited in the eſtimate, the committee can judge how far they can depend on theſe arrearages to make up this deficiency. There is beſides an arrearage of claſs tax, which has produced but little the laſt year; but what may be ſtill coming from that fund will appear, when the Comptroller furniſhes his liſt of balances.

For arrearages of militia fines, ſee ſtatement of militia fund.

Balance of principal and intereſt of loan-office of £ 150000, which is releaſed from the redemption of the dollar money of 1ſt June 1780, nearly the whole of that money being ſunk, ſee general revenues of the ſtate, &c.

Note. In addition to the above, there is a balance on five inſtallments due the late Proprietaries, equal to about £ 120000, to the 3d September 1788, the payments made not being much more than equal to the intereſt due thereon, per acts of 27th November 1779, 9th February 1785, and 27th March 1787.

An eſtimate of the arrearages of taxes due by the different counties, from 1781 to 30th September, 1789, including only half the Effective Supplies for 1781, taken from the Treaſurer's accounts.

City and County of PHILADELPHIA.

Dr.					Cr.		
To balance due on half of effective ſupplies for 1781, payable in ſpecie,	£ 1003	9	7	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 51623	15	10
Ditto on taxes of 1782,	9480	12	3				
1783,	8568	8	1				
1785,	1112	7	0				
1786,	3302	8	3				
1787,	4487	14	11				
1788,	7068	6	9				
1789,	16600	9	0				
	£ 51623	15	10		£ 51623	15	10

CHESTER *County.*

Dr.					Cr.		
To balance due on taxes for 1782,	£ 10138	6	9	By this ſum overpaid in 1787,	£ 147	14	4
1783,	7825	17	10	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	28729	18	6
1785,	29	2	5				
1786,	500	18	9				
1788,	2289	9	7				
1789,	8093	17	6				
	£ 28877	12	10		£ 28877	12	10

YORK *County.*

Dr.					Cr.		
To balance due on taxes for 1782,	£ 4342	16	11	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 31801	3	1
1783,	4099	1	5				
1785,	3346	3	3				
1786,	4120	7	6				
1787,	3686	17	6				
1788,	6102	18	3				
1789,	6102	18	3				
	£ 31801	3	1		£ 31801	3	1

BERKS *County.*

Dr.					Cr.		
To balance due on taxes for 1782,	£ 7439	16	8	By this ſum overpaid on half of effective ſupplies for 1781,	£ 711	0	1
1783,	4453	19	0	Ditto, on 1785,	44	18	8
1787,	1653	16	4	Ditto, on 1786,	6	9	4
1788,	3745	13	7	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	22040	9	8
1789,	5509	12	2				
	£ 22802	17	9		£ 22802	17	9

LANCASTER *County.*

Dr.					Cr.		
To balance due on taxes for 1782,	£ 31693	2	6	By this ſum overpaid on half of effective ſupplies for 1781,	£ 486	12	9
1783,	4233	4	7	Ditto, on 1785,	5873	17	8
1787,	3227	16	2	Ditto, on 1786,	1809	4	11
1788,	5156	17	6	Balance due 30th Sept 1789,	44335	11	9
1789,	8194	6	4				
	£ 52505	7	1		£ 52505	7	1

CUMBERLAND *County.*

Dr.					Cr.			
To balance due on half of effective ſupplies for	1781,	£ 3038	0	0	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 50495	1	1
	1782,	21659	8	6	*Note.* The exoneration for taxes of 1781 and 1782 for the townſhips of Wayne and Derry will appear to the credit, when aſcertained per act September 27, 1788,			
	1783,	13074	14	7				
	1785,	2316	12	4				
	1786,	1784	0	11				
	1787,	1894	11	8				
	1788,	3344	2	4				
	1789,	3383	10	9				
		£ 50495	1	1		£ 50495	1	1

BEDFORD *County.*

Dr.					Cr.			
To balance due on half of effective ſupplies for	1781,	£ 539	9	11	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 13528	6	5
	1782,	5131	3	6				
	1783,	4981	0	0				
	1785,	1024	13	10				
	1786,	10	17	10				
	1787,	91	11	1				
	1788,	710	15	5				
	1789,	1038	14	10				
		£ 13528	6	5		£ 13528	6	5

NORTHAMPTON *County.*

Dr.					Cr.			
To balance due on taxes of	1782,	£ 4006	17	4	By this ſum overpaid on half of effective ſupplies for 1781,	£ 401	11	1
	1785,	62	19	2	Ditto on taxes for 1783,	130	9	4
	1786,	554	3	11	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	10142	11	4
	1787,	814	9	4				
	1788,	2632	12	1				
	1789,	2603	9	11				
		£ 10674	11	9		£ 10674	11	9

NORTHUMBERLAND *County.*

Dr.					Cr.			
To balance due on half of effective ſupplies for	1781,	£ 2299	16	7	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 26979	6	4
	1782,	11732	2	0	*Note.* This county is entitled to a credit from Luzerne county, erected out of it Sept. 25th 1786, for taxes of 1787, 1788 and 1789.			
	1783,	5416	4	2				
	1785,	1373	0	11				
	1786,	1511	16	1				
	1787,	392	7	3				
	1788,	2106	3	3				
	1789,	2147	16	1				
		£ 26979	6	4		£ 26979	6	4

WESTMORELAND *County.*

Dr.					Cr.			
To balance due on half of effective ſupplies for	1781,	£ 3674	0	10	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 16095	19	8
	1782,	8075	1	0	*Note.* This county is entitled to a credit from Allegeny county, erected from this and Waſhington the 24th September 1788, for a proportion of taxes of 1789.			
	1783,	2158	9	8				
	1785,	454	10	0				
	1786,	331	13	2				
	1787,	102	5	0				
	1788,	700	0	0				
	1789,	600	0	0				
		£ 16095	19	8		£ 16095	19	8

MONTGOMERY *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1785,	£ 1	10	0	Balance due 30th Sept 1789,	£ 7373	17	1
	1786,	11	0	8				
	1787,	156	18	5				
	1788,	1291	12	9				
	1789,	5912	15	3				
		£ 7373	17	1		£ 7373	17	1

BUCKS *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1783,	£ 2319	1	7	By this ſum overpaid on half of effective ſupplies for 1781,	£ 1	17	0
	1785,	2517	17	7	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	13501	8	11
	1786,	464	12	6				
	1787,	591	1	11				
	1788,	2568	10	8				
	1789,	5042	1	8				
		£ 13503	5	11		£ 13503	5	11

DAUPHIN *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1786,	£ 1247	17	3	By overpaid in tax 1785,	£ 550	15	3
	1787,	1159	12	2	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	5589	2	10
	1788,	972	5	5				
	1789,	2759	3	3				
		£ 6138	18	1		£ 6138	18	1

FRANKLIN *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1785,	£ 908	6	5	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 8877	4	7
	1786,	1666	13	11				
	1787,	1759	0	1				
	1788,	2190	11	0				
	1789,	2352	13	2				
		£ 8877	4	7		£ 8877	4	7

WASHINGTON *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1782,	£ 8050	1	0	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 10351	1	8
	1786,	324	3	11				
	1787,	254	2	6	*Note.* Part of this county taken into Allegeny Sept. 4th, 1788, and entitled to a credit for taxes of 1789, alſo the exoneration per act of 3d Oct. 1788, will be credited this county, when aſcertained.			
	1788,	244	0	6				
	1789,	1479	13	9				
		£ 10351	1	8		£ 10351	1	0

FAYETTE *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1788,	£ 144	8	0	By this ſum overpaid in 1786,	£ 11	3	10
	1789,	694	13	7	Ditto, in 1787,	11	19	4
					Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	816	0	5
		£ 839	3	7		£ 839	3	7

HUNTINGDON *County*.

Dr.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d. Cr.
To balance due on taxes for	1788,	£ 299	3	8	Balance due 30th Sept. 1789,	£ 917	3	8
	1789,	618	0	0				
		£ 917	3	8		£ 917	3	8

Account of balances taken from the foregoing accounts.

	£	s.	d.
City and county of Philadelphia,	£ 51623	15	10
Cheſter county,	28729	18	6
York,	31801	3	1
Berks,	22040	9	8
Lancaſter,	44335	11	9
Cumberland,	50495	1	1
Bedford,	13528	6	5
Northampton,	10142	11	4
Northumberland,	26979	6	4
Weſtmoreland,	16095	19	8
Montgomery,	7373	17	1
Bucks,	13501	8	11
Dauphin,	5588	2	10
Franklin,	8877	4	7
Waſhington,	10351	1	8
Fayette,	816	0	5
Huntingdon,	917	3	8
Luzerne, } Included in Weſtmoreland, Waſhington and			
Allegeny, } Northumberland quotas.			
	343197	2	10

Deduct for exonerations,

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Waſhington, per act of 3d October 1788, and Cumberland for 1781 and 1782, per act 27th September 1788, the amount not aſcertained, but has been computed on a former occaſion at	£ 30000	0	0			
Taxes of non-reſidents, which, when the particular years can be aſcertained, will appear to the credit of the counties,	1616	6	1			
				31616	6	1
				£ 311580	16	9

JOHN DONNALDSON.

Regiſter-General's Office,
November 14, 1789.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the above mentioned ſtatement be printed, for the uſe of the members.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That where leave is given to bring in a bill of a private nature, the parties applying ſhall, after ſuch bill has been once read, cauſe a ſuitable number of copies to be printed for the uſe of the members of the Houſe, and delivered to the Clerk, the expence of which, and all other reaſonable expences attending the ſame, ſhall be defrayed by the party; that if after the ſecond reading of ſuch bill the Houſe ſhall think it neceſſary to be publiſhed ed for the conſideration of the people, the expence thereof ſhall be defrayed by the ſtate.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed to examine the minutes of the late Houſe, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, poſtponed *November* 4th: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Mitchell*,

Ordered, That all the papers on the files of the General Aſſembly, reſpecting the claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne*, be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Baird*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Reily*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin*, read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of ſundry of the inhabitants of *Cumberland* and *Dauphin* counties, reſpecting a road at the end of *Peter*'s *Mountain*, cannot be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Fayette *into election* "*diſtricts*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 30, 1789. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *John Chaloner* and *John Hart* were read, remonſtrating againſt the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions and Auctioneers, and praying the reſtrictions therein contained may be repealed, ſo far as to authoriſe every perſon, upon giving ſufficient ſecurity for the faithful diſcharge of the duties, to expoſe to ſale goods, wares and merchandize, within the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, ſetting forth, that being uninformed of the act, entituled "*An Act to explain and amend an act*, entituled " An Act for the gradual " abolition of ſlavery," which requires that all Negroe children born after the firſt of *March*, 1780, ſhall be regiſtered on or before the firſt day of *April*, 1789, they have forfeited their right and title to ſuch child or children, and praying a further time may be allowed them for regiſtering them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 27th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Turkey-foot* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz*.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition from the inhabitants of *Turkey-foot* townſhip, in *Bedford* county, report——

That it appears to your committee, from the beſt information they have been able to obtain, that the inhabitants of *Turkey-foot* townſhip, in *Bedford* county, labour under very great inconveniencies in attending the courts of juſtice and other public buſineſs at the town of *Bedford*, and that annexing the ſaid townſhip to the county of *Fayette* would add very much to the eaſe and convenience of the inhabitants thereof: Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to annex the townſhip of *Turkey-foot*, in *Bedford* county, to the county of *Fayette*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 18th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, ſtating their particular ſituation with reſpect to the tax laid in the year 1782, and praying a further time may be allowed them for the payment thereof, beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to divide the public taxes laid and aſſeſſed within the townſhip of *Peter*'s, in the county of *Franklin*, in the year 1782, into three equal parts, and to authoriſe and empower the collecting thereof in three annual payments, with a proviſo, that the whole of each perſon's ſhare or proportion thereof, who ſhall neglect or refuſe to give ſecurity for the ſame, if required, ſhall be immediately levied and collected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with Mr. *Reading Howell*, relative to a map he is preparing of *Pennſylvania*, and to report ſuch information to the Houſe as may enable them to judge whether any or what encouragement ought to be afforded him in that undertaking.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Mr. *Rawle*, in his place, read a bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for* " *the cuſtody of priſoners committed under the authority of the United States*," and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive Council to appoint Commiſ-* " *ſioners, to audit and ſettle the accounts between* Bedford *and* Huntingdon " *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries* " *of the officers of the Land-office*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to take into conſideration the amendments propoſed by Congreſs to the conſtitution of the United States.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further progreſs in the buſineſs, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again.

Leave was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 1, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The memorial of *James Hockley*, read *November* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *Ibrie* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

The petition of the Commiſſioners of the county of *Dauphin*, read *November* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Erb* and Mr. *Lilley*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read *November* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the counties of *Waſhington* and *Allegheny*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Thomas*, ſeconded by Mr. *Downing*,

Reſolved, That the members of *Cheſter* and *Delaware* counties be a committee, to bring in a bill to affix the quotas of the public taxes for each of the ſaid counties.

The petitions of *John Chaloner* and *John Hart*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee on the petition of *Jonas Philips*, appointed *November* 27th, with the addition of Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Rhea*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Bryan* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Montgomery* county, praying that the public offices of their county may be kept in the county town, report——

That the requeſt contained in their petition appears to the committee neceſſary for the convenience of ſuitors and others having buſineſs to tranſact, and of courſe that regulations for that purpoſe would be highly expedient. The ſafety of the papers and records belonging to or in the cuſtody of Prothonotaries, Regiſters and Recorders, has occurred to the committee as a matter of much importance, and the proviſions made for that purpoſe in the county of *Bucks*, ſupported by the law paſſed on that occaſion, *March* 21ſt, 1772, have appeared worthy of imitation. In order to carry theſe beneficial objects into effect throughout the ſtate, the committee propoſe the following reſolutions, *viz.*

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties in this ſtate, with the approbation of the Juſtices of the county court of Quarter Seſſions and Grand Jury, to cauſe, as ſoon as conveniently may be, a ſuitable building to be erected at the place appointed by law for holding the courts in their reſpective counties, for the reception and ſafe keeping of the records and other papers belonging to or in the proper cuſtody of the Prothonotary of the county court of common pleas, the Clerk of the county court of quarter ſeſſions, the Clerk of the orphans court, the Recorder of deeds, and the Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, of their reſpective counties: That ſuch buildings be conſtructed of brick or ſtone, upon the moſt ſafe and ſecure plan, to avoid the ravages of fire.

Reſolved, That copies of this reſolution be forthwith tranſmitted by the Clerk of the Houſe to the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to require the public officers of the reſpective counties in this ſtate to keep their offices in ſuch place as is or ſhall be by law eſtabliſhed for holding the courts for ſuch counties. And as ſoon as ſuitable buildings ſhall have been conſtructed, in purſuance of the recommendation of this Houſe, for the reception of the records and papers belonging to or in the proper cuſtody of the Prothonotary of the county court of common pleas, the Clerk of the county court of quarter ſeſſions, the Clerk of the orphans court, the Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and the Recorder of deeds, to compel ſuch officers to depoſit ſuch records and papers in the ſaid buildings.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Rawle,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo* "*much of an act, entituled* "An Act to provide for a continuation of the "ſalaries of the officers of the land-office, and to aſcertain and provide the "ſalary for the Judge of the Admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein men- "tioned, as relates to the ſalary of the Judge of the Admiralty," and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *D. Stewart,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for found-* "*ing and endowing a public ſchool in the town and county of* Huntingdon," and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of* "*The* "Pennſylvania *Society for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and for the relief* "*of free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, and for improving the condition of* "*the* African *race,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reimburſe* Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham *and* Andrew Sweringen, *for monies advanced by them in defence of the frontiers of* Waſhington *county*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain bills of credit therein mentioned, and alſo to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain certificates iſſued for the purchaſe of horſes, proviſions and other articles, by virtue of an act of General Aſſembly paſſed on the firſt day of* June, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty*," was read the third time.

And in debating the title of the ſaid bill,

It was moved by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

That the ſame be amended, ſo as to read as follows, *viz.*

"*An Act to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain bills of credit and certificates therein mentioned.*"

Which was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 2, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Stehly* was read, ſetting forth, that he was poſſeſſed of a certain tract of land ſituated in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, a part of which has been ſold for the trifling ſum of *fifteen pence*, in payment of the public taxes; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county reſiding in the diſtrict commonly called *Bentley*'s *Diſtrict*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of the ſecond diſtrict of *Waſhington* county, report——

That they are of opinion the prayer of the ſaid petition ought to be granted, and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to alter the place of holding elections in the ſecond diſtrict of *Waſhington* county.

The committee appointed *November* 27th, on the memorial and petition of divers officers in the late *American* hoſpital department, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the officers in the hoſpital department, report——

That they have attended to the buſineſs committed to them, and that, however ſenſible the committee are of the great and meritorious ſervices performed by the ſaid officers, yet as they can find no law under which the officers can claim, offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the petition of the officers in the hoſpital department cannot be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* poſtponed yeſterday: Whereupon

It was, on motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall,*

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Alexander Lewis, James Gamble* and *Patterſon Bell.*

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved,* That *Joſeph Miller,* being charged with miſconduct in keep-
" ing a tippling-houſe, and aiding, abetting and aſſiſting *William Robinſon,*
" one of the Collectors of taxes in and for the county of *Lancaſter,* to
" make his eſcape with a ſum of public money, appear before this Houſe,
" and ſhew cauſe why he ſhould not be removed from his office of Juſtice
" of the Peace of the ſaid county of *Lancaſter.*"

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the reſolution?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,*

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* read *November* 27th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners on the ſubject of exoneration for militia fines of the county of *Montgomery* have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties in this ſtate, with the approbation of the Juſtices of the County Court of Quarter Seſſions and Grand Jury, to cauſe, as ſoon as conveniently may be, a ſuitable building to be erected at the place appointed by law for holding the courts in their reſpective counties, for the reception and ſafe keeping of the records and other papers belonging to or in the proper cuſtody of the Prothonotary of the county court of common pleas, the Clerk of the county court of quarter ſeſſions, the Clerk of the orphans court, the Recorder of deeds, and the Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, of their reſpective counties. That ſuch buildings be conſtructed of brick or ſtone, upon the moſt ſafe and ſecure plan, to avoid the ravages of fire.

Reſolved, That copies of this reſolution be forthwith tranſmitted by the Clerk of the Houſe to the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to require the public officers of the reſpective counties in this ſtate to keep their offices in ſuch place as is or ſhall be by law eſtabliſhed for holding the courts for ſuch counties. [And as ſoon as ſuitable buildings ſhall have been conſtructed, in purſuance of the recommendation of this Houſe, for the reception of the records and papers belonging to or in the proper cuſtody of the Prothonotary of the county court of common pleas, the Clerk of the county court of quarter ſeſſions, the Clerk of the orphans court, the Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and the Recorder of deeds, to compel ſuch officers to depoſit ſuch records and papers in the ſaid buildings.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Paul,* Mr. *Schmyſer,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Vaux* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *Cunningham,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan,* in the following words, *viz.*

Whereas the barracks in the borough of *Lancaſter* were erected at the public expence, for the accommodation of the troops who ſhould be ſtationed in the ſaid borough from time to time, as the public exigencies ſhould require: And whereas the ſaid barracks are in a ruinous ſtate, and become the retreat of idle, vagrant and diſorderly perſons (particularly on Sabbath days) to the great diſturbance and annoyance of the peaceable and well diſpoſed people of the ſaid borough, and there does not appear any neceſſity of maintaining or keeping them in repair: Therefore the following reſolution is ſubmitted to the conſideration of the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to appoint Commiſſioners to ſell the ſaid barracks erected in the borough of *Lancaſter* at public auction, and the monies ariſing therefrom to be applied to the uſe of the commonwealth.

On motion of Mr. *Boys,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the quality of Pot and Pearl-Aſhes,*" and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the cuſtody of priſoners committed under the authority of the United States,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Miniſter, Truſtees and Members of the Methodiſt Epiſcopal Church, known by the name of* Saint George's *Church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That be tranſcribed for a third reading.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating fences, and directing the mode of proceeding with treſpaſſing creatures within the counties hereinafter mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act concerning ſtray horſes, cattle and ſheep, and to prevent ſtone-horſes running at large; alſo to repeal the act, entituled* "An Act to improve the breed of horſes, and regulate rangers," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday,

Thurſday, *December* 3, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Van Sweringen*, late of the eighth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, praying he, together with the men under his command, may by law be entitled to receive the depreciation due on their pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 17th, on the petition of a number of the members of the corporation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of *Saint John*, in the borough of *York*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the members of the Corporation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of *Saint John*, in the borough of *York*, report——

That the prayer of the petitioners appears reaſonable, and ought in the opinion of the committee to be granted. To objects ſo meritorious as the promotion of religious worſhip and diſſemination of learning, the Legiſlature is bound to lend its aſſiſtance, where it can be done without throwing unjuſt burthens upon the remainder of the citizens. The plan propoſed in the petition being calculated to obviate the latter objection, the committee ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable the perſons therein mentioned to raiſe the ſum of by a lottery, for the purpoſe of compleating the parſonage houſe and academy of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of *Saint John*, in the borough of *York*, and that the ſaid bill contain a proviſo, that the right of mortgaging the ſaid parſonage houſe ſhall not be thereby affected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made a further report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means beg leave to report——

That it appears to them, on an inveſtigation into the finances of the ſtate, that ſo large a proportion of the taxes heretofore laid is in arrear, that a ſufficient ſum can be collected from the arrearages, without further burthening the people at this time, to anſwer the immediate exigencies of the ſtate; that a mode of collecting theſe arrearages, ſo as to make the payment thereof as eaſy as the nature of the caſe will admit, is in the contemplation of the committee, but, as the ſeſſion is drawing to a concluſion, a ſufficient attention cannot now be paid to the ſubject by the committee, to digeſt all the details of the ſyſtem they propoſe, nor render the plan ſo perfect as one ſo important requires. Strong hopes are entertained that relief will be afforded, by early fœderal arrangements, from the preſſure under which the ſtate labours as to its debts contracted for the purpoſes of the war. The committee have therefore the more readily indulged their feelings for their fellow-citizens, who have been for many years beyond their abilities loaded with a direct taxation, to a degree unparalleled, in its proportion to the productive value of the property, in any other part of the world. That the meaſure about to be propoſed herein, of a temporary ceſſation of the funding tax, will not only facilitate the collection of the arrearages, but give ſatisfaction to thoſe who are uneaſy under the weight of taxes, and prevent thoſe numerous emigrations, which too frequently diminiſh the population of the ſtate. Your committee therefore conceive that a law ſhould be immediately enacted, to ſuſpend for one year the operation of the act, entituled “*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate,*” ſo far as it directs the impoſing the tax therein mentioned for the ſpace of twelve months from and after the firſt day of *January* next. They therefore report, that it be

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to ſuſpend ſo much of an act, entituled “*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate,*” as reſpects the aſſeſſment of the tax therein mentioned for twelve months, from and after the firſt day of *January* next, and no longer.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Balliot,* ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell,*

To take up the ſaid report, by ſpecial order, for a ſecond reading.

On the queſtion,—“*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M‘Dowell,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Rawle,*
3 *Francis Gurney,*
4 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
5 *Thomas Paul,*
6 *Thomas Britton,*
7 *Elias Boys,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *James Bryan,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *Caleb James,*
15 *John M‘Dowell,*
16 *James Clemſon,*
17 *John Hopkins,*
18 *Henry Dering,*
19 *James Cunningham,*
20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *John Miller,*
22 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
23 *John Stewart,*

YEAS.

24 *Thomas Lilley,*
25 *William Godfrey.*
26 *John Ludwig,*
27 *Joſeph Sands,*
28 *Nicholas Lutz,*
29 *Daniel Leinbach,*
30 *Peter Ealer,*
31 *Stephen Balliot,*
32 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
33 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
34 *John White,*
35 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
36 *Jacob Reiff,*
37 *Jonathan Roberts,*
38 *Benjamin Markley,*
39 *James Vaux,*
40 *John Carſon,*
41 *James M‘Creight,*
42 *Obadiah Gore,*
43 *David Stewart,*
44 *Hugh Lloyd,*
45 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Clingan,*
2 *Joſeph Reed,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*

NAYS.

4 *David Mitchell,*
5 *Jonathan Hoge,*
6 *John Moore,*

N A Y S.	N A Y S.	N A Y S.	N A Y S.
7 *Harman Huſband,*	10 *Alexander Wright,*	13 *James Finley,*	16 *Jacob Miley,*
8 *John Baird,*	11 *James Marſhall,*	14 *James Johnſton,*	17 *John Nevil,*
9 *James Barr,*	12 *John Gilchreeſt,*	15 *John Rhea,*	18 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the report read the ſecond time.

Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to ſuſpend ſo much of an act, entituled " *An Act* " *for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and pay-* " *ing the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate,*" as reſpects the aſſeſſment of the tax therein mentioned for twelve months, from and after the firſt day of *January* next, and no longer.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Ryerſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act to aſcertain the quality of Pot and Pearl-Aſhes,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee on ways and means reported " A Statement of the public accounts, in continental and ſtate money, from the 1ſt *January,* 1788, to the 30th *September,* 1789, taken from the books of the Regiſter-General's office."

STATEMENT of the Public Accounts, in Continental and State Money, from the 1ſt of *January,* 1788, to the 30th of *September,* 1789, taken from the Books of the Regiſter-General's Office.

Dr. *General Revenues and Expenditures, in State Money.* Cr.

Dr.			
TO bills of credit of April 1781, delivered to committees of Aſſembly, and burnt September 22d 1789, -	£ 24000	0	0
New emiſſion of dollars June 1ſt 1780, *Dols.* 1381694 $\frac{80}{90}$	480635	19	2
Certificates for horſes, &c. for the uſe of the army in 1780, principal and intereſt, - - -	641	16	10
John Nicholſon, Eſq; for a warrant in his favor for paying the non-commiſſioned officers and privates of Capt. Thomas Stockley's company of rangers the ſums due to them in ſtate money,	114	7	0
Carried forward, -	£ 505392	3	0

Cr.						
By D. Rittenhouſe, for a balance per his account ſtated as in the treaſury from taxes 1781, -	£ 62631	1	7			
By arrears of purchaſe money and intereſt on lands ſold by the late Proprietors, -	13533	12	1			
By taxes in 1781, in ſtate money, -	584	14	7	£ 76749	8	3
By D. Rittenhouſe, for a balance ſtated as remaining in his hands from taxes for funding and ſinking ſtate money, - -	1409	17	9			
Carried forward, -	£ 1409	17	9	£ 76749	8	3

General revenues and expenditures, &c.

Dr.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 505392	3	0
The eſtate of Wm. Henry, late of Lancaſter, for ſervants inliſted in the army,	15	0	0
To the Treaſurer's commiſſions on the different revenues, &c. in ſtate money, that paſſed the treaſury,	663	8	3
Balance to new account,	154	18	3
	£ 506225	9	6

Cr.

	Dols.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward,			£ 1409 17 9	£ 76749 8 3
By taxes for funding and ſinking the ſtate monies, received ſince his laſt ſettlement,			6645 18 7	
				8055 16 4
By D. Rittenhouſe, a balance ſtated as remaining in his hands from a number of different accounts from the years 1785 and 1787.				
From ſundries, 1785,			26 15 5	
Ditto, 1787,			460 0 9	
Ditto, Joſeph Work in 1785, for court fines,			16 8 6	
George Gibſon, a balance,			19 6 0	
Wm. Smith, ditto,			6 0	
John Lacey, ditto,			34 3 1	
Jacob Arndt, ditto,			5 2 3	
An error in ſettlement of account of 1787,			243 0 0	
Sundry errors deducted by J. Nicholſon, Comptroller-General, on ſettlement of accounts of 1787,			26 12 4	
				831 14 4
By D. Rittenhouſe, a balance, as ſtated by him, on hand of monies of June 1ſt 1780,		£ 415745 15 7		
Exchanged for other monies from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 29th September 1789,	*Dols.* 7809			
From John Hay, February 20th 1787,	1617			
From John Nicholſon, May 25th 1786,	116			
	Dols. 9542	3578 5 0		
			419324 0 7	
By Loan-Office of £ 150000 principal, Received ſince 1ſt January 1788,	*Dols.* 3372		1264 10 0	
				420588 10 7
				£ 506225 9 6

General revenues and expenditures, in continental money.

Dr.		Continental.	State Money.
To bills of credit of 1ſt June 1780 delivered to the committee of Aſſembly and burnt,		£ 3000386 9 4	£ 40005 3 1
To Treaſurer's commiſſions on the continental account, - - -		8493 18 5	113 4 10
To account certificates received in taxes, in the hands of Comptroller-General, -		121005 11 7	1613 8 0
To ditto in the hands of the Treaſurer 24700 dols.	£ 9262 10 0		
To balance to new account, being the amount of continental money in the Treaſury,	289475 0 5		
		298737 10 5	3983 3 8
Exchange at 75 for one,		£ 3428623 9 9	£ 45714 19 7

		Continental.	State Money. Cr.
By a balance in the Treaſury from militia fines,	£ 929557 0 7		
By militia fines received from Joſhua Anderſon, of Bucks county, - -	1031 15 0		
		930588 15 7	
By a balance remaining from arrearages of continental taxes, - - -		60793 10 0	
By ditto from monthly taxes,		460190 0 7	
By arrearages of taxes received from monthly taxes,		75693 0 2	
By ditto from firſt claſs tax, - -		1122108 17 2	
By ditto ſince 1ſt January 1778, -		7813 4 2	
By a balance remaining from continental exchanged for bills of 1781, - -		664860 2 0	
By continental money ſtated as remaining in the treaſury from different accounts, from 1780 to 1787, - - -		102951 19 3	
By ſundry errors in the Treaſurer's accounts in 1787, as ſtated by the Comptroller-General,		3624 0 10	
Exchange at 75 for one,		£ 3428623 9 9	£ 45714 19 7

Bills of credit, per act of June 1ſt 1780, of 1495000 Dollars.

Dr.		
To this ſum counted by committee of Aſſembly and burnt September 1789, per Treaſurer's account,	*Dols.* 154513	£ 57942 7 6
Ditto, - - -	5613 80/90	2105 4 2
Ditto, - - - - -	1121569	420588 7 6
Ditto, per continental account, - -	106680 37/90	40005 3 1
Ditto, per general revenues in ſpecie, or paper of 1785, counted and burnt 22d September 1789,	35091	13159 2 6
Balance which remains to be redeemed in money of this emiſſion, bearing Intereſt at five per cent.	71532 63/90	26824 15 3
	Dols. 1495000	£ 560625 0 0

		Cr
By amount emitted, per act 1ſt June 1780, in bills of credit, bearing intereſt of five per cent.	*Dols.* 1495000	£ 560625 0 0
	Dols. 1495000	£ 560625 0 0

Note. The amount of the balance as above is conſidered as in the hands of Thomas Smith, Eſquire, Continental Loan Officer, part of which bills are not ſigned or perfected, which he is inſtructed by the United States to withhold as theirs.

Forfeited Eſtates.

Dr.		Cr.		
		By balance in the treaſury,		£ 6380 9 7
		Of which is in ſtate money,	£ 242 5 0	
		In certificates,	6138 4 7	
			£ 6380 9 7	

Bills of credit, per act of 7th April 1781.

Dr.			Cr.	
To counted and burnt by the committee of Aſſembly in 1782,		£ 145400 0 0	By bills of credit of 20th April 1781, emitted,	£ 486500 0 0
To ditto, in 1786,	£ 115779 14 6			
	10002 15 3			
	96064 0 0			
	6411 2 0			
		228257 11 9		
To ditto, in 1787,		63816 18 0		
To ditto, in 1789,		24000 0 0		
Balance yet to be redeemed,		25025 10 3		
		£ 486500 0 0		£ 486500 0 0

State-Iſland money, per act 25th March 1780.

Dr.		Cr.	
To this ſum counted and burnt by committee of Aſſembly before 1ſt January 1785,	£ 82300 0 0	By bills of credit emitted per act of 25th March 1780, dated 29th April 1780, bearing intereſt at 5 per cent.	£ 100000 0 0
Ditto, March 1785,	16075 0 0		
Ditto, Feb. 16, 1786,	498 15 0		
Balance to be redeemed, part of which is in the treaſury,	1126 5 0		
	£ 100000 0 0		£ 100000 0 0

Certificates iſſued for horſes and proviſions for uſe of the army 1780.

Dr.	*Continental.*	*State Money.*	Cr.
To paid on warrants of Council for principal and intereſt of ſundry certificates in ſtate money,		£ 641 16 10	*Note.* The balance outſtanding of theſe certificates will appear to the credit of this account, when the balances are furniſhed from the Comptroller's books.
To received in payment of taxes ſundry certificates, paid over to the Comptroller-General, account in continental,	£ 121005 11 7		

Dr. *Reſolve and commonwealth money, emitted in the years* 1775 *and* 1776, *and per act* 20*th March* 1777. Cr.

To this ſum of reſolve money burnt before the 1ſt January 1785,	£ 44936 16 6	By reſolve money of 1775 and 1776, - -	£ 200000 0 0
To ditto of commonwealth money of March 1777, ditto,	54941 16 6	By commonwealth money of 20th March 1777, -	200000 0 0
To ditto of reſolve money, February 21ſt 1786, -	30119 4 0		
To ditto of commonwealth, ditto, - -	33218 19 0		
To ditto of ſmall money of theſe emiſſions mixed, -	7934 2 5		
Balance to be redeemed, of which £ 5313 2 1 remains in the treaſury, ſee ſtate of the treaſury, - -	228849 1 7		
	£ 400000 0 0		£ 400000 0 0

Note. The bills included in this ſtatement are not in circulation; by a law of the 13th April 1782, they, or paper of April 1781, at the rate of ſeventy-five for one, were made receivable in arrearages of continental taxes.

State of the treaſury in continental money.

To balance remaining from different revenues, viz.			
In a loan office certificate received from George Roſs, Eſquire, Judge of the Admiralty, 24700 dollars, - -			£ 9262 10 0
Ditto in reſolve and commonwealth money, - -			5313 2 1
Ditto in Maryland convention bills of credit, - -			8292 19 2
Ditto in Delaware, ditto, - - -			107 15 10
Ditto in bills iſſued in New-Jerſey under a reſolve of Congreſs, - -	*Dols.* 3613		
Ditto Maſſachuſetts, - -	1075		
Ditto Maryland, - - -	21		
	Dols. 4709	£ 1765 17 6	
Ditto bills by the ſtate of New-Jerſey ſince 1781,		84 12 6	
		£ 1850 10 0	
All of which were received from the County Treaſurers in payment of taxes, at 75 for one, is, - - - -			138787 10 0
In continental bills of credit, 355599 dollars, -			133349 12 6
In ditto, being the amount of ſundry errors in favor of the ſtate, in the ſettlement of Treaſurer's account for 1787 by the Comptroller-General, - - - - -			3624 0 10
			£ 298737 10 5

Account of arrearages of taxes due by the different counties in continental and ſtate money.

City and County of PHILADELPHIA.

Account of Taxes for 1781, for funding and ſinking Paper Money.

Dr.		Cr.	
1785. To balance due on taxes of 1781,	£ 3631 12 11	By this ſum received ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1 88,	£ 3507 12 3
Balance overpaid on this tax, per contra, which will be carried to the credit of the arrearages of 1782,	2394 13 4	Ditto, April 1789,	2518 14 0
	£ 6026 6 3		£ 6026 6 3

CHESTER *County, on account of Continental Taxes.*

Dr.		Cr.	
1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 159369 10 2	By this ſum received ſince,	£ 74231 2 8
		Balance due,	85138 7 6
	£ 159369 10 2		£ 159369 10 2

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for funding and ſinking Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes for 1781, funding,	£ 8887 11 9	By this ſum received ſince, from 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 7112 16 1
		Ditto from Jan. 1ſt 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	40 1 6
		Balance due,	1734 14 2
	£ 8887 11 9		£ 8887 11 9

YORK *County, on account of Continental Taxes.*

Dr.		Cr.	
1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 409353 0 7	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 293621 19 5
		Ditto from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	29667 10 0
		Balance due,	36063 11 2
	£ 409353 0 7		£ 409353 0 7

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for funding and ſinking Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes for 1781,	£ 10848 6 0	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 3408 8 6
To ditto, for funding, &c.	4471 15 0	Ditto,	1529 10 0
		Ditto from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	572 14 9
		Balance due,	9809 7 9
	£ 15320 1 0		£ 15320 1 0

BERKS *County, on account of Continental Taxes.*

Dr.		Cr.	
1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 207442 7 5	By this ſum paid ſince,	£ 281050 5 7
To balance overpaid on this tax, carried to the credit of funding, &c. of 1781, at 75 for 1, £ 981 8 9,	73607 18 2		
	£ 281050 5 7		£ 281050 5 7

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for funding and ſinking Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes for 1781, for funding, &c.	£ 6249 10 2	By this ſum received ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 65 17 1
Carried over,	£ 6249 10 2	*Carried over,*	£ 65 17 1

Account of arrearages of taxes, &c.

BERKS *County.*

Account of Taxes for 1781, &c.

Dr.				Cr.			
Brought over,	£ 6249	10	2	*Brought over,*	£ 65	17	1
Balance overpaid per contra, which will be carried to the credit of arrearages of 1782 and 1783,	9889	17	10	Ditto,	10321	3	3
				Ditto,	3361	12	6
				Ditto, from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	1409	6	5
				Balance of conti. money, £ 73607 18 2, at 75 for 1,	981	8	9
	£ 16139	8	0		£ 16139	8	0

LANCASTER *County, on account of Continental Taxes.*

Dr.				Cr.			
To balance overpaid on this account, carried to the credit of tax for 1781, at 75 for 1, £ 1602 19 3,	£ 120222	4	3	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785,	£ 120222	4	3
	£ 120222	4	3		£ 120222	4	3

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

1785. To balance due on taxes of 1781,	£ 10221	3	10	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 10654	13	8
To ditto, for funding, &c.	240	18	6	Ditto from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789, on taxes of 1781,	140	14	0
Balance overpaid on taxes per contra, which will be carried to the credit of arrearages of 1782,	2744	6	7	Ditto for funding, &c.	808	2	0
				Balance in continental overpaid, at 75 for 1, £ 120222 4 3,	1602	19	3
	£ 13206	8	11		£ 13206	8	11

CUMBERLAND *County, on account of Continental Taxes.*

Dr.				Cr.			
1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 327634	2	9	By this ſum paid ſince,	£ 136167	7	6
				Ditto,	26796	15	10
				Balance due,	164669	19	5
	£ 327634	2	9		£ 327634	2	9

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes for 1781,	£ 15157	15	9	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 2620	9	7
Ditto on funding, &c.	6980	12	6	Ditto,	2146	4	11
				Ditto, from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	284	4	6
				Ditto,	486	16	0
				Balance due,	16600	13	3
	£ 22138	8	3		£ 22138	8	3

BEDFORD *County, on account of Continental taxes.*

Dr.				Cr.			
1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 434534	18	11	By this ſum paid ſince,	£ 43911	17	5
				Ditto,	1164	3	0
				Balance due,	389458	18	6
	£ 434534	18	11		£ 434534	18	11

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes for 1781,	£ 5266	8	5	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 122	12	2
Ditto, for funding, &c.	2115	15	0	Ditto,	21	5	4
				Ditto from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	380	19	8
				Balance due,	6857	6	3
	£ 7382	3	5		£ 7382	3	5

Account of arrearages of taxes, &c.

Dr. NORTHAMPTON *County, on account of Continental Taxes.* Cr.

1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 45616	17	8	By this ſum paid ſince,	£ 2054	5	0
				Balance due,	43562	12	8
	£ 45616	17	8		£ 45616	17	8

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes of 1781,	£ 2443	12	9	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 2689	13	4
Balance overpaid per contra, which will be carried to the credit of arrearages of 1782,	412	0	5	Ditto to 30th Sept. 1789,	131	1	3
				Ditto,	34	18	7
	£ 2855	13	2		£ 2855	13	2

Dr. NORTHUMBERLAND *County, on account of Continental Taxes.* Cr.

1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 497298	10	8	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 65776	17	2
				Ditto from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	18062	7	7
				Balance due,	413459	5	11
	£ 497298	10	8		£ 497298	10	8

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes of 1781,	£ 7169	9	0	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 1009	17	3
Ditto, for funding, &c.	3598	2	6	Ditto from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	7	9	6
				Ditto,	344	6	5
				Balance due,	9405	18	4
	£ 10767	11	6		£ 10767	11	6

Dr. WESTMORELAND *County, on account of Continental Taxes.* Cr.

1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 586063	0	6	Balance due,	£ 586063	0	6

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes of 1781,	£ 9530	7	10	Balance due,	£ 12144	2	10
Ditto, on funding, &c.	2613	15	0				
	£ 12144	2	10		£ 12144	2	10

Dr. BUCKS *County, on account of Continental Taxes.* Cr.

1785. To balance due on taxes,	£ 86093	11	2	By this ſum paid ſince 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 27693	13	10
				Ditto, received from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	2	3	9
				Balance due,	58397	13	7
	£ 86093	11	2		£ 86093	11	2

Account of Taxes for 1781, and for ſinking and funding Paper Money.

To balance due on taxes of 1781,	£ 2443	18	5	By this ſum received from 1ſt Jan. 1785 to 1ſt Jan. 1788,	£ 447	5	9
				Ditto, ditto,	2	3	0
				Ditto, from 1ſt Jan. 1788 to 30th Sept. 1789,	49	19	3
				Balance due,	1944	10	5
	£ 2443	18	5		£ 2443	18	5

Liſt of balances, taken from the foregoing accounts.

	Due in Continental.	*Taxes for 1781, in State Money.*	*Funding &c. in State Money.*	*Balances overpaid in State Money.*
City and County of Philadelphia, -				£ 2394 13 4
Cheſter County, - -	£ 85138 7 6		£ 1734 14 2	
York, - - - -	86063 11 2	£ 9809 7 9		
Berks, - - -				9889 17 10
Lancaſter, - - -				2744 6 7
Cumberland, - -	164669 19 5	16600 13 3		
Bedford, - - -	389458 18 6	6857 6 3		
Northampton, - - -	43562 12 8			412 0 5
Northumberland, - -	413459 5 11	9405 18 4		
Weſtmoreland, - -	586063 0 6	9530 7 10	2613 15 0	
Bucks, - - - -	58397 13 7		1944 10 5	
	£ 1826813 9 3	£ 52203 13 5	£ 6292 19 7	£ 15440 18 2

JOHN DONNALDSON.

Regiſter General's Office,
November 30, 1789.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Gurney*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the foregoing ſtatement be printed, for the uſe of the members.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to Mr. *Andrew Brown* for printing ſundry bills, and for ſix copies of the Fœderal Gazette for one year, for the uſe of the members of Aſſembly, the ſum of *thirteen pounds two ſhillings and ſix-pence:* Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Andrew Brown*, printer, for the ſum of *thirteen pounds two ſhillings and ſix pence*, in full of his account.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 4, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Peter Roberts*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

A petition from the public creditors in the city and neighbourhood of *Philadelphia*, by their committee, was read, ſuggeſting their reaſons againſt enacting any law for ſuſpending the payment of certain taxes under the operation of divers acts of Aſſembly, referred to in their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *Van Sweringen*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of *David Jones*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *David Jones*, collector of taxes, report——

That having notified the ſaid *David Jones* to appear before them with his duplicate, and examined the ſame, as well as the depoſition of *Francis Leatherman*, and the affirmations of *Mordecai Jones* and *Catharine Dougherty*, your committee are of opinion that the facts ſtated are true: Therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to exonerate *David Jones* from the payment of the ſum of *twenty-two pounds four ſhillings and ſeven-pence*, money by him received in payment of public taxes, and of which he was robbed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 1ſt, on the petition of *James Hockley*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of *James Hockley*, Eſquire, beg leave to report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of the ſaid memorial, and have it certified under the hand of *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, that he, as Treaſurer to the Commiſſioners appointed by law, did, on the twenty-fifth day of *September*, 1773, receive of *James Hockley*, one of the Commiſſioners, the ſum of *twenty-five pounds*, to be expended in clearing the river *Schuylkill*, which money appears by the Treaſurer's book to be paid by him to *Anthony Levering*, who ſuperintended the workmen employed in clearing ſaid river; and the Treaſurer further certifies, that it is the only ſum received by him for that purpoſe: The committee therefore offer the following reſolve,

That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *James Hockley*, for the ſum of *twenty-five pounds*, in full of his claim, to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* ſpecially appropriated by law for the payment of claims, as ſoon as that fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed by a reſolution of the Houſe on the firſt inſtant to confer with *Reading Howell*, on the ſubject of the map of this ſtate which he is preparing, report——

That they have had a conference with the ſaid *Reading Howell*, and have carefully examined the map he is preparing, which is nearly completed, and has met with the approbation of the committee; that in the opinion of the committee, the importance and utility of a true geographical knowledge of the territory of this ſtate will amply juſtify the interference of the Houſe in favor of Mr. *Howell*, who, from the great expence he has already been at, is not likely to be able to engrave and publiſh the map without aſſiſtance: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the ſum of   be granted to *Reading Howell*, to enable him to complete and publiſh a map of this ſtate, which ſhall be paid him by an order of the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council on the Treaſurer of the ſtate; and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to ſuſpend, for the time therein mentioned, part of an act, entituled* "An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual "intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the "intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate," *paſſed the ſixteenth of* March, "*one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Rawle,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act,* "*entituled* "An Act to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia,*" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Ryerſon,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act,* "*entituled* "An Act to improve the breed of horſes, and to regulate ran- "gers," and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive* "*Council to appoint Commiſſioners to audit and ſettle the accounts between* Bed- "ford *and* Huntingdon *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the cuſtody of priſoners com-* "*mitted under the authority of the United States,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Miniſter, Truſtees and* "*Members of the Methodiſt Epiſcopal Church, known by the name of* Saint "George'*s Church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the commonwealth of* Penn- "ſylvania," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain bills of credit and certificates therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to continue an act, entituled* "An Act for opening and amend- "ing the public roads and highways within this province."

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday,

Saturday, December 5, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *December* 1ſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *Nathaniel Hurſt* and others, praying that further time may be given them for the purpoſe of regiſtering of ſuch Negroe and Mulattoe children as have been born ſince the law for the abolition of ſlavery as they are poſſeſſed of, are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners is reaſonable and juſt, and therefore offer the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to give further time to the ſaid *Nathaniel Hurſt,* and the other petitioners, for the purpoſe of regiſtering of ſuch Negroe and Mulattoe children as they are poſſeſſed of, who have been born ſince the firſt day of *March,* 1780.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Van Sweringen,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter and petition of Captain *Van Sweringen,* report——

That they have conſidered the ſaid letter and petition referred to them, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof ought not to be complied with: Therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That Captain *Van Sweringen* have leave to withdraw his letter and petition.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Turkey-foot* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* read *November* 30th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to annex the townſhip of *Turkey-foot,* in *Bedford* county, to the county of *Fayette.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Marſhall,* Mr. *D. Stewart* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* reſiding in the election diſtrict commonly called *Bentley's Diſtrict,* read *December* 2d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to alter the place of holding elections in the ſecond diſtrict of *Waſhington* county.

Ordered, That the members from the county of *Waſhington* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of divers officers of the late *American* hoſpital department, read *December* 2d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition of the officers of the hoſpital department cannot be granted.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with *Reading Howell,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the ſum of be granted to *Reading Howell,* to enable him to complete and publiſh a map of this ſtate, which ſhall be paid him by an order of the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Balliot* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the ſeſſion.

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop,* ſeconded by Mr. *Harris,*

Reſolved, That this Houſe will on *Wedneſday* next cloſe their preſent ſeſſion.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend, for the time therein mentioned,* " *part of an act, entituled* " An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate " towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and " for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate," was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *Sect.* 2. Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of " the Freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That ſo much of the act, en" tituled " *An Act for furniſhing the quota of this State towards paying the* " *annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying* " *the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate,*" paſſed the ſixteenth day of " *March,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, as requires the Com" miſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* and of the other coun" ties of this ſtate reſpectively, to iſſue their warrants as therein is directed, " and the Aſſeſſors of or in the city of *Philadelphia,* and of each reſpective " county, to make return of property as is therein directed, or as requires " an aſſeſſment or apportionment of the ſaid tax to be made for the year en" ſuing in the city, or any of the counties aforeſaid, ſhall be, and is hereby " ſuſpended for one year from and after the firſt day of *January* next, and " no longer."

It was moved by Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Finley,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid paragraph, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

" Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives " of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſem" bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That   part " of the ſame tax which by law is directed to be aſſeſſed upon and levied " on the good people of this ſtate for the year of our Lord one thouſand " ſeven hundred and ninety, for the preceding years, be accordingly abated, " and that the quota levied upon each and every county within this ſtate " ſhall be accordingly leſſened from and after the   day of *December* next."

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-* " *ſaid purpoſe?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* " An " Act to provide for the continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the "land-office, and to aſcertain the ſalary of the Judge of the Admiralty, "and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," *as relates to the Judge of the "Admiralty,"* was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the cuſtody of priſoners com-"mitted under the authority of the United States,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The petition of the committee of the public creditors, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, December 7, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *James Rowan,* an inſolvent collector of taxes, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Vaux,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 18th, on the petitions of the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in the county of *Northumberland,* and of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Potter*'s, *Bald Eagle, Lack, Milford, Fermanagh* and *Greenwood,* in the county of *Mifflin,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee on the ſeveral petitions of ſundry inhabitants of the counties of *Mifflin* and *Cumberland,* praying that the ſeat of juſtice may be fixed below the *Long Narrows,* beg leave to report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of the ſeveral petitions of ſundry inhabitants of the counties of *Mifflin* and *Cumberland,* praying that the ſeat of juſtice may be fixed below the *Long Narrows,* and can find no good reaſon for altering the place for holding the courts of juſtice for the county of *Mifflin* from the place it is fixed in, by the act of Aſſembly which erected *Mifflin* county into a ſeparate county, for it appears to your committee that the place fixed for the ſeat of juſtice is as nearly central as the nature and ſituation of the country will admit of: Therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitions of ſundry inhabitants of the counties of *Mifflin* and *Cumberland,* reſpecting the altering the ſeat of juſtice, ought not to be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Your committee on the petition of ſundry inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in *Northumberland* county, praying that they may be annexed to *Mifflin* county, beg leave to report——

That having duly enquired into the ſituation of the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in *Northumberland* county, they are induced to believe they ought to be annexed to *Mifflin* county, and your committee find they were included within the lines of *Mifflin* county in the firſt publication of the bill, but through ſome miſtake in the alteration of the lines, in the laſt reading thereof, they were left out: Therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of ſundry inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in *Northumberland* county, praying to be annexed to *Mifflin* county, be granted, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *David Jones,* read *December* 4th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle,*

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report on the petition of the members of the corporation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of Saint *John,* in the borough of *York,* read *December* 3d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act in favor of* Reading Howell," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act concerning ſtray horſes, cattle and ſheep, and* "*to prevent horſes running at large; alſo to repeal the act, entituled* "An "Act to improve the breed of horſes, and regulate rangers," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating fences, and directing the mode* "*of proceeding with treſpaſſing creatures within the counties herein after mention-* "*ed,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate a ſociety, by the name of* "The "*Pennſylvania* Society for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and for the "relief of free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, and for improving the "condition of the *African* race," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clingan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Ryerſon,* and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into conſideration the ſubject relating to the ſalary of the Comptroller-General, and make ſuch report thereon as they may think proper.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clingan* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act for founding and endowing a public ſchool* " *in the town and county of* Huntingdon," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act to authorize and direct the Supreme Execu-* " *tive Council to appoint Commiſſioners to audit and ſettle the accounts between* " Bedford *and* Huntingdon *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report on the petition of *James Hockley,* read *December* 4th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *James Hockley,* for the ſum of *twenty-five pounds,* in full of his claim, to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* ſpecially appropriated by law for the payment of claims, as ſoon as that fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive.

The committee of accounts made report; which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to Meſſieurs *Hall* and *Sellers,* for printing the minutes of the General Aſſembly the three ſeſſions of laſt year, and for ſundry other articles of printing, as per their account rendered, a balance of *two hundred and twenty-eight pounds three ſhillings and four-pence:* Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favor of *Hall* and *Sellers,* printers, for the ſum of *two hundred and twenty-eight pounds three ſhillings and four-pence,* in full of their exhibited account.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act to ſuſpend, for the time therein mentioned,* " *part of an act, entituled* " An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate " towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and " for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled,* " An " Act to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the " Land-Office, and to aſcertain and provide the ſalary for the Judge of the " Admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned, as relates to the ſalary of the Judge of the Admiralty," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 8, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee on ways and means made a further report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to alter the place of holding elections in the ſecond diſtrict of* Waſhington "*county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for the time therein mentioned,* "*part of an act, entituled* "An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate "towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, "and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the ſaid act be printed, and tranſmitted by the Clerk of this Houſe to the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties, for their information and government.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the ſalaries of the officers of* "*the land-office*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to provide a general mode of ſettling the accounts of collectors of taxes, who have been or may hereafter be robbed of the public monies.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in favor of* Reading Howell," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux,*

To re-conſider the reſolution adopted yeſterday, on the memorial of *James Hockley.*

Which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *James Hockley,* for the ſum of *forty-nine pounds,* in full of his claim, to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* ſpecially appropriated by law for the payment of claims, as ſoon as that fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive.

On motion of Mr. *Ryerſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with Council, on the ſubject of a defence of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate againſt the hoſtile incurſions of the *Indians*, and make report thereof to this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Baird*, Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*aſcertain the quality of Pot and Pearl-Aſhes*:" Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Ryerſon*,

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to provide for the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-office.*

An ACT *for incorporating the Methodiſt Epiſcopal Church, known by the name of* Saint George*'s Church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania.

An ACT *to incorporate a Society, by the name of* "*The* Pennſylvania "*Society for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and for the relief of free* "*Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, and for improving the condition of the* "African *race.*"

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *December* 9, 1789. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *John Glen*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *November* 4th, 1788, was taken from the files, preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means further report in part——

That although the official accounts and eſtimates are directed by law to be laid before the Houſe in the firſt week of their firſt ſeſſion, yet it was ſo late before they were obtained, that the committee has been put to ſome difficulty in accommodating the neceſſary deliberation upon the ſubject to the ſhortneſs of time allowed for it.

Theſe accounts being before the Houſe, and printed by their order, it is needleſs for the committee to do more than refer to them for a view of the receipts and expenditures of the ſtate.

The melancholy proſpect of heavy burthens and increaſing deficiencies, which they exhibit, is alleviated by the recollection that ſome of thoſe burthens are annually leſſening, and that one of the heavieſt, the intereſt aſſumed upon the new-loan debt, will probably be finally diſcharged in the current year, and by the hopes to be derived from the energy of the fœderal government, from a fertile ſoil, an increaſing population, and an extenſive commerce.

With theſe reflections before them, the committee have endeavored to form a ſyſtem for the current year, which, although unavoidably inadequate to the ſupply of former deficiencies, has appeared to them the moſt productive,

tive, with the leaſt general burthen to the people, of any that has occurred to them.

The demands immediately preſſing againſt the ſtate, after the expences of government, are, the intereſt due on the proper debt of the ſtate, part of which, being charged on a competent fund, has not been one of the preſent ſubjects of conſideration; but the remainder, amounting for the current year to £ 18214 10, has been a neceſſary object of the attention of the committee.

The meritorious nature of this demand, for which the ſtate received an actual conſideration previous to granting her certificates, ſurely requires a ſcrupulous attention to its diſcharge.

The penſions to widows and children of commiſſioned officers, who were killed or died in actual ſervice, and to diſabled officers and privates, amount to £ 2200, a debt which is annually diminiſhing, but which, while it remains, both humanity and juſtice require us to ſatisfy.

It is ſcarcely neceſſary to obſerve that the ſum of £ 10000, annually ſet apart from the general funds of the ſtate for claims and improvements, cannot, in its nature, take place of prior appropriations, and muſt therefore depend upon the ſurplus that may remain.

Of the bills of credit emitted by the act of *March* 16th, 1785, it will be neceſſary to deſtroy £ 21173. Upon this head it is to be obſerved, that although at firſt view it may appear more reaſonable to ſatisfy urgent demands out of the ſpecial appropriations of taxes, which this money may be paid in to diſcharge, yet, as it was originally emitted upon the principle, and of courſe under the obligation, that it ſhould be gradually deſtroyed, at the rate of £ 20000 per annum, the annual revenues of the ſtate are to be conſidered productive by ſo much leſs as is neceſſary to complete this undertaking.

The committee anticipate the auſpicious moment, when, with the deſtruction of the laſt bill of this emiſſion, our public wealth will be increaſed, and our political reputation enhanced.

The eſtimated balance of intereſt due on the new-loan certificates, ſo as to compleat the four years which are to be diſcharged, is ſtated by the Regiſter-General at £ 83250.

That the aſſumption of the payment of the intereſt of theſe debts of the United States, by the act of *March* 16th, 1785, has been generally diſſatisfactory and unpopular, the committee is well aſſured; yet that inviolable adherence to public engagements, which eminently characteriſes the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, will, they truſt, induce her to perſevere in the neceſſary meaſures for the diſcharge of this balance, notwithſtanding the preſent weight of the public contributions.

The plan which the committee have to propoſe, it is hoped, will relieve the ſtate, after the year 1790, from this burthen, and thereby the better enable her to ſatisfy the donation to the late Proprietaries, and other unfunded demands, and to take beneficial meaſures for the reduction of the principal of the funded debts of the ſtate.

By the accounts exhibited it appears that there are now due in ſpecie, and in the bills emitted in 1785, arrearages of taxes, to the amount of *three hundred and eleven thouſand five hundred and eighty pounds ſixteen ſhillings and nine pence.* To leave ſo large a ſum of money belonging to the ſtate in the hands of the people is not conſiſtent with policy or juſtice. It is impolitic, becauſe a debt, as it grows old, becomes the more difficult to recover; becauſe it is diſcouraging to induſtry to turn its eyes upon accumulating burthens, which it can neither eſcape nor diſcharge; and becauſe it diſcourages foreign emigration, by ſuggeſting opinions that our taxes are more oppreſſive than in truth they are. It is unjuſt, becauſe the willing and obedient citizen, while new taxes continue to be demanded, bears the whole of a burthen, which ought to be divided with his deficient neighbour. The committee is therefore of opinion, that for the ſervice of the preſent year it is neceſſary that effective meaſures be taken for the collection of the ſaid arrearages.

A conſiderable ſum of money is ſtated to be ſtill due from the impoſt and protecting duties, the former of which is appropriated to the payment of the intereſt on certificates, and the latter to the expences of government. Theſe ſums the committee think ought to be collected as expeditiouſly as poſſible.

In order to obtain a view of the amount of certificates iſſued by this ſtate, or by the United States, and now the property of this ſtate, and alſo of the quantity of both which have been taken in payment for lands ſold by this ſtate, the following reſolution is ſubmitted:

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General be directed to furniſh the Regiſter-General, before the 20th day of *January* next, with the ſeveral accounts in and by the act, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An "Act for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſter-"ing the accounts of this commonwealth," directed, in order that a ſtatement thereof may be laid before this Houſe at their next ſeſſion.

From the complaint contained in the petition of the public creditors, which has been referred to the committee, and which is confirmed by information received from the Regiſter-General, it is incumbent on the committee to obſerve, that unleſs a due regard is paid to legiſlative appropriations of the revenues by the officers, into whoſe management they are devolved, it will be nugatory for the Legiſlature either to adhere to or depend upon ſuch appropriations.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to the ſeveral printers herein after named the ſeveral following ſums, *viz.* to *Thomas Bradford,* the ſum of *two hundred and nineteen pounds and fourteen ſhillings*; to *Michael Billmeyer,* the ſum of *eighty-two pounds and ten ſhillings*; to *Francis Bailey,* the ſum of *four pounds ſixteen ſhillings and nine-pence*: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favor of *Thomas Bradford,* for the ſum of *two hundred and nineteen pounds and fourteen ſhillings*; in favor of *Michael Billmeyer,* for the ſum of *eighty-two pounds and ten ſhillings*; and in favor of *Francis Bailey,* for the ſum of *four pounds ſixteen ſhillings and nine-pence,* in full of their reſpective accounts.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favor of *Thomas Bradford,* for the ſum of *two hundred and nineteen pounds and fourteen ſhillings*; in favor of *Michael Billmeyer,* for the ſum of *eighty-two pounds and ten ſhillings*; and in favor of *Francis Bailey,* for the ſum of *four pounds ſixteen ſhillings and nine-pence,* in full of their reſpective accounts.

The bill, entituled "*Supplement to an act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to improve "the breed of horſes, and regulate rangers," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion,

Reſolved, That *Jacob Shallus* and *Joſeph Webb,* employed by the Clerk of this Aſſembly to aſſiſt him in the buſineſs of the Houſe, receive, reſpectively, the following ſums, as a compenſation for their ſervices, *viz. Jacob Shallus twenty ſhillings,* and *Joſeph Webb ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix-pence,* for each day they have ſeverally attended the duty of their employment, the number of days to be certified by the Clerk of the Houſe to the committee of accounts.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

SUPPLEMENT *to an act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia.

SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to improve the breed of "horſes, and to regulate rangers."

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to aſcertain the ſecurity to be given by the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the time being.*

II. *An* ACT *for granting preſent relief to the wounded and diſabled ſoldiers, who have received penſions from this ſtate.*

III. *An* ACT *to repeal ſo much of any act or acts of the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, as authoriſes and directs the receiving of certificates of the United States in payment of lands purchaſed or to be purchaſed of this ſtate.*

IV. *An* ACT *to limit the time of exhibiting claims againſt the ſtate, for ſupplies furniſhed or ſervices rendered during the late war.*

V. *An* ACT *to defray the expences of holding the Convention.*

VI. *An* ACT *to limit the time for exchanging and redeeming certain bills of credit and certificates therein mentioned.*

VII. *An* ACT *to continue an act, entituled* "An Act for opening and "amending the public roads and highways within this province."

VIII. *An* ACT *to provide for the cuſtody of priſoners committed under the authority of the United States.*

IX. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend, for the time therein mentioned, part of an act, entituled* " An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the " annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate."

X. *An* ACT *to repeal ſo much of an act, entituled* " An Act to provide " for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-office, and " to aſcertain and provide the ſalary for the Judge of the Admiralty, and for " other purpoſes therein mentioned," *as relates to the ſalary of the Judge of the Admiralty.*

XI. *An* ACT *to provide for the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-office.*

XII. *An* ACT *to incorporate a Society, by the name of* " The *Pennſylvania* Society for promoting the abolition of ſlavery, and for the relief of free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, and for improving the condition of the *African* race."

XIII. *An* ACT *for incorporating the Methodiſt Epiſcopal Church, known by the name of* Saint George'*s Church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *in the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania.

XIV. SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to incorporate " the city of *Philadelphia.*

XV. SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to improve the " breed of horſes, and regulate rangers."

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Adjourned until the firſt *Tueſday* in *February* next.

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,

Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

ERRATUM.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FRIDAY, *February* 5, 1790. A. M.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*, as follows, *viz.*

THE Houſe having obſerved that in the printed Journals of their proceedings an error has taken place, with regard to the adoption of the report of the committee on ways and means, which was read the ſecond time on the 9th day of *December* laſt, and then adopted, direct that the Clerk of the Houſe take proper meaſures to have the ſaid error rectified.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the above motion was read the ſecond time, and adopted.

Extract from the minutes,

PETER Z. LLOYD, Clerk
of the General Aſſembly.

The error above alluded to is contained in the printed Journals of the Houſe on the 9th day of *December*, 1789, page 109, in the following words, *viz.*

" The committee on ways and means made report in part, which was
" read, as follows, *viz.*"

Whereas the true entry ſhould be, and is in the words following, *viz.*

" The further report in part of the committee on ways and means, read
" yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*"

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND SESSION
OF THE FOURTEENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on TUESDAY,
the Second Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord
One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Ninety.

Tueſday, February 2, 1790. P. M.

MR. Speaker with a number of members met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, February 3, 1790. P. M.

Mr. Speaker with a number of members met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 5, 1790. A. M.

Mr. Speaker with a number of members met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 5, 1790. A. M.

A number of repreſentatives, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment.

Samuel Maclay, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Northumberland*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and the addition and exception thereto, as agreed upon by this Houſe, as well as the oath preſcribed by an act of the United States paſſed the firſt day of *June* laſt.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Markley* and Mr. *Riley* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

A memorial and petition from *James Rowan*, an inſolvent collector of taxes, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, refering to his former petitions, and praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with his former petitions, be referred to Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon; and that the committee appointed *November* 12th laſt, on his former petitions, be diſcharged.

A petition from *Mary Neeſe*, widow of *Peter Neeſe*, was read, ſetting forth, that her huſband died of the wounds he received in the late war; that ſhe applied to the Orphans Court for the gratuity allowed to the widows of deceaſed and diſabled officers and ſoldiers of the militia, wounded in the public ſervice, and a decree in her favor was awarded by the court, and certified by the Comptroller-General to the Supreme Executive Council, who ordered payment to be made her out of the militia fines levied in the county of *Northumberland*; and that upon application to the County Treaſurer and Lieutenant, ſhe was informed no money had been collected on account of militia fines; ſtating her diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*, as follows, *viz.*

The Houſe having obſerved, that in the printed journals of their proceedings an error has taken place with regard to the adoption of the report of the committee on ways and means, which was read a ſecond time on the 9th day of *December* laſt, and then adopted, direct that the Clerk of the Houſe take proper meaſures to have the ſaid error rectified; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted.

The committee appointed to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported, that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council were preparing buſineſs, which they would lay before the Houſe on *Monday* next.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 6, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland* were read, praying a ſum of money may be granted, in aid of a road laid out and opened from the road leading through *Hamborough*, in the county of *Berks*, about two miles above the forks of the river *Schuylkill*, and leading the neareſt and beſt way to the mouth of *Cattaweſſy* creek, in the county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *James Rowan*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *James Rowan*, a priſoner now in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, report——

That they made enquiry into the caſe of the petitioner, and find he is indebted to the Treaſurer of the city and county of *Philadelphia* about *two thouſand pounds* (as the Commiſſioners apprehend) and to the Commiſſioners of the public landing in *Southwark five hundred pounds*: All which ſums it appears he muſt have collected on account of taxes, and has not paid into the hands of the Treaſurer, nor can he give your committee any ſatisfactory account of any part thereof, but informs them he has neither real or perſonal eſtate wherewith to pay the ſaid *two thouſand five hundred pounds*.

The committee further report, That it appears to them highly neceſſary, under any circumſtances the petitioner may be in, if he is liberated from gaol, he ought to be bound to give every neceſſary aſſiſtance in his power to the Commiſſioners, when called on, reſpecting the ſettlement of his accounts, as no other perſon can unravel them.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, February 8, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Roſs*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating the diſtreſſed ſituation of himſelf and his numerous family, and praying he may be releaſed from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That the ſame committee be inſtructed to examine the laws of this commonwealth reſpecting inſolvent debtors, and report ſuch amendments as they may deem proper.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 9, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 895 inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin* were read, ſetting forth, that they are much aggrieved by the act for erecting the ſaid county, ſo far as the ſame reſpects the boundary lines and the place for holding the courts of juſtice; and praying the lines of the ſaid county may be eſtabliſhed agreeably to their original petitions, and that the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be fixed conformably to the judgment of certain Commiſſioners, appointed for that purpoſe by the inhabitants of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Nicolas,* Keeper of the Work-houſe of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that by the ſuppreſſion of diſorderly houſes and the baniſhment of vagrants, as well as other cauſes, his preſent and probable fees in future are and will be conſiderably reduced; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* was read, remonſtrating againſt the road laid out from the Union mills, on the river *Lehigh,* to the *Neſcopeck* falls of the river *Suſquehanna,* and praying this Houſe to order and direct a review of the ſaid road.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed the report on the petition of *James Rowan,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the caſe of *James Rowan,* report the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to liberate *James Rowan* from impriſonment, on ſuch terms, to be expreſſed in the bill, as will enſure his aſſiſtance in the ſettlement of his accounts, and hold any lands, tenements, goods, chattels or effects, which he now has, or hereafter may acquire, enjoy or poſſeſs, liable for payment of the balances in which he is indebted.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *December* 4th laſt, on the petition of *Peter Roberts,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Peter Roberts,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* report——

That they have duly attended to that buſineſs, and the priſoner's creditors have liberated him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Meſſage from His Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the Chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MES-

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

CONFORMABLY to the act of General Aſſembly, paſſed on the twenty-eighth of *September*, 1789, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint Commiſſioners for viewing the navigable waters in this ſtate, we inſtructed *Timothy Matlack*, *Reading Howell* and *William Dean* to view the river *Delaware*—*Benjamin Rittenhouſe* and *John Adlum* to view the river *Schuylkill*—and *Bartram Galbraith*, *Samuel Boyd* and *Thomas Hulings* to view the river *Suſquehanna.*

The Commiſſioners appointed to view the river *Delaware* have compleated the taſk aſſigned to them.—Thoſe who were appointed to view the river *Schuylkill* have examined that river, from the Great Fall, five miles above this city, to the town of *Hamburgh*, twenty-three miles higher than the town of *Reading*, and have extended their examination to the *Tulpehockon*, and the ſtrait between the head waters of that ſtream and the *Quittapahilla*, which communicates with the *Suſquehanna*. That part of the *Schuylkill*, however, which flows above the town of *Hamburgh*, has not yet been explored by the Commiſſioners.—The Commiſſioners appointed to view the river *Suſquehanna* have examined that river, from *Wright*'s ferry to its confluence with the *Juniata*, and have viewed the *Juniata* from its mouth to *Piper*'s run; but they have not compleated their report.

The reports of the *Delaware* and *Schuylkill* Commiſſioners, and the drafts and ſurveys to which the reports refer, we have ſent herewith.

The ſecurity of the public records againſt fire, and other caſualties, requires, in our opinion, the attention of the Legiſlature. The books and documents belonging to the Maſter of the Rolls, the Comptroller-General, the Regiſter-General, the Truſtees of the Loan-Office, the Receiver-General and Secretary of the Land-Office, and to the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, are depoſited in different rooms in the State-houſe; while thoſe which appertain to the offices of the Surveyor-General, the Prothonotary of the Supreme Court, and the Regiſter of Wills for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, are, for want of room in the public buildings, neceſſarily kept in the private dwellings of the reſpective Officers. Beſides the great danger attending this latter circumſtance, it is no inconſiderable inconvenience that the books and papers of public offices, not only upon the change of the Officers, but whenever thoſe Officers change their houſes, ſhould be removed to different and diſtant parts of the city. We therefore ſuggeſt, that the erecting of a building as a repoſitory for all public records, and in which the ſeveral Officers whom we have mentioned may be accommodated for the tranſaction of their reſpective duties, will be a matter of public utility.

We tranſmit herewith a memorial from *Reading Howell*, who is preparing a map of *Pennſylvania*, and applies for permiſſion to delineate the north boundary line, under the authority of the ſtate.

As we believe the engraving this line in Mr. *Howell*'s map will compleatly anſwer the deſign of the act, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the*

" *boundary line between this ſtate and the ſtate of* New-York," paſſed the twenty-ninth day of *September*, 1789, without occaſioning any expence to the public, we are of opinion it will be proper to comply with his requeſt.

The act of Aſſembly, entituled " *An Act for enlarging the time limited by* " *the act, entituled* " An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills " of credit emitted in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred " and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate; " for extending the time for patenting lands which were located before the " declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to " actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied," paſſed the twenty-firſt day of *March*, 1789, will expire by its own limitation on the tenth day of *April* next. As the objects of this law are not accompliſhed, we recommend its continuance to the conſideration of the Legiſlature.

John Bayard, Eſquire, who was one of the Truſtees appointed by the General Aſſembly for that part of the province iſland which belongs to the ſtate, has removed into *New-Jerſey*, and *Robert Knox*, Eſquire, another Truſtee, is dead. It may therefore be proper to appoint other perſons in the room of thoſe gentlemen.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, February 9th, 1790.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Maclay*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

The committee to whom was re-committed, *December* 8th laſt, the bill, entituled " *An Act to aſcertain the quality of pot and pearl-aſhes,*" reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate the exportation of pot-aſh and pearl-aſh,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter the place of holding elections in the ſe-* " *cond diſtrict of* Waſhington *county*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle* be added to the committee appointed *November* 9th laſt, on the petition of the owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 10, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, February* 10*th*, 1790.

SIR,

I DO myſelf the honor of tranſmitting to you, to be laid before the General Aſſembly, the report of the Commiſſioners appointed to view the river *Suſquehanna,* which Council received this morning.

I have the honor to be,
With the greateſt reſpect,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient and humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the report therewith tranſmitted was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed yeſterday on the meſſage of Council, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A memorial from *Henry Pawling* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with his petitions read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly on the ſubject of his claim to a certain tract of land in the county of *Luzerne;* and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 28th laſt, to whom were referred all the papers on the files of the General Aſſembly reſpecting claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne.*

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred, *November* 5th laſt, that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the claims of widows and children of deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy, and the petition of *Mary Neeſe,* a widow, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the claims of widows and children of deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy, and alſo the petition of *Mary Neeſe,* a widow, comprehended in the above deſcription, report——

That the committee, ſenſible of the diſtreſſed ſituation many of thoſe people labour under, are of opinion that ſome proviſion ought to be made for ſuch as are moſt neceſſitous as early as poſſible.

But as their numbers may be ſuppoſed to be yearly diminiſhing, from the marriage or death of widows, and arrival of children to the age of fourteen years, they are alſo of opinion that a new enquiry or examination into the juſtneſs of their claims is now really neceſſary, in order to prevent impoſitions: Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to empower the Preſident in Council to draw orders upon the State Treaſurer, to be paid out of the intereſt ariſing from the loan-office, by a certificate or certificates, granted as hereafter mentioned, for ſuch ſums as ſhall appear to be due to the widows and children of the deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy—and that a clauſe or clauſes be inſerted in ſaid bill, authoriſing the Supreme Court, or any two Juſtices thereof at Niſi Prius, to grant certificates to ſuch claimants, as in their opinion come fully within the benevolent intentions of the acts of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Balliot,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,*

Reſolved, That the ſaid petition be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council, to take order thereon.

The petitions of 895 of the inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin,* read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Carſon,* Mr. *Harris* and Mr. *Lloyd,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Lewis Nicolas,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *James Rowan,* poſtponed yeſterday: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to liberate *James Rowan* from impriſonment, on ſuch terms, to be expreſſed in the bill, as will enſure his aſſiſtance in the ſettlement of his accounts, and hold any lands, tenements, goods, chattels or effects, which he now has or hereafter may acquire, enjoy or poſſeſs, liable for payment of the balances in which he is indebted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Vaux* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for founding and endowing a public ſchool in* "*the town and county of* Huntingdon," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lutz* be added to the committee appointed *December* 8th laſt, to confer with Council on the ſubject of a defence of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate againſt the hoſtile incurſions of the Indians.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 11, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Samuel Moore,* praying that no excluſive right may be granted to any perſon for keeping a public ferry acroſs the river *Delaware,* from the borough of *Eaſton* to the ſtate of *New-Jerſey,* was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the Managers of the *Pennſylvania Hoſpital* was read, ſetting forth, that they have not an equal chance with other legatees of diſcovering ſuch legacies as are or have been bequeathed to that inſtitution, and ſuggeſting the propriety of adopting ſuch meaſures as may be deemed proper, to compel the Regiſters for the probate of wills in the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, or the Executors, to inform the parties who repreſent charitable and public inſtitutions of all legacies ſo bequeathed to them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on ways and means, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, to empower the Preſident in Council to draw orders upon the State Treaſurer, to be paid out of the intereſt ariſing from the Loan-Office, for ſuch ſums as ſhall appear, by a certificate or certificates granted as hereafter mentioned, to be due to the widows and children of the deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, flying camp, ſtate regiments and ſtate navy, and that a clauſe or clauſes be inſerted in ſaid bill, authoriſing the Supreme Court, or any two Juſtices thereof at Niſi Prius, to grant certificates to ſuch claimants, as, in their opinion, come fully within the benevolent intentions of the acts of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Finley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act relating to the ſureties to be given by Sheriffs and Coroners,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *Finley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea,* as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to provide for the election of Repreſentatives in Congreſs for this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *D. Stewart* be added to the committee appointed *November* 27th laſt, on the petitions of *Jonas Philips* and others.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Mitchell* be added to the committee appointed *November* 23d laſt, to confer with Council on the ſubjects of the donation and depreciation lands.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 12, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Francis White,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſtating his peculiar and diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying to be releaſed from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Vaux,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 9th, on the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council, and to arrange the matters therein contained, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to arrange the ſeveral matters contained in the meſſage of the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council beg leave to ſay, that in their opinion the firſt part of the meſſage contains very important information; and although they are ſenſible that the preſent finances of the ſtate will not warrant the Legiſlature to go generally into the buſineſs, they nevertheleſs conceive that ſome part of it ought to be attempted: And therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the navigation of the rivers *Delaware, Schuylkill* and *Suſquehanna.*

With regard to the other parts of the meſſage, they beg leave to offer the following reſolutions, *viz.*

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the ſecurity of the public records againſt fire, and other caſualties, be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the memorial of *Reading Howell,* be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, recommending an extenſion of the time for patenting lands beyond the 10th day of *April* next, be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, calling the attention of the General Aſſembly to the propriety of appointing other Truſtees in the room of *John Bayard,* Eſquire, removed to *New-Jerſey,* and *Robert Knox,* Eſquire, deceaſed, be referred to a committee.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the navigation of the rivers *Delaware, Schuylkill* and *Suſquehanna.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Balliot,* Mr. *Ludwig,* Mr. *Carſon,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Ryerſon* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the ſecurity of the public records againſt fire, and other caſualties, be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Lilly,* Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the memorial of *Reading Howell,* be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Cunningham* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council, calling the attention of the General Aſſembly to the propriety of appointing other Truſtees in the room of *John Bayard,* Eſquire, removed to *New-Jerſey,* and *Robert Knox,* Eſquire, deceaſed, be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Boys,* Mr. *Vaux* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of ſaid report be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee reſpecting the act, entituled " *An Act for enlarging the time limited by the*

" *act, entituled* " An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of " credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, " and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending " the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration " of independence, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers " for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied."

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolu-* " *tion?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to extend the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independence, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied until the day of and no longer.

It was, on motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

Ordered, That the words " *and no longer,*" be ſtruck out.

The reſolution, as amended, was then adopted: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Maclay,* Mr. *Marſhall,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act to authorize and direct the Supreme Execu-* " *tive Council to appoint Commiſſioners to audit and ſettle the accounts between* " Bedford *and* Huntingdon *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That every part of the ſaid bill, excepting the title of the ſame, be re-committed, and that Mr. *Rawle* be added to the committee.

Mr. *Rawle,* in his place, read a bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act,* " *entituled* " An Act to provide for the ſalaries of the officers of the Land- " Office;" and having obtained leave for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The repreſentation of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania Hoſpital,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Godfrey,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they think proper.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Berks* and *Northumberland* counties, read *February* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Paul,* Mr. *Leinbach* and Mr. *White,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lerch* have leave of abſence.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 13, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others was read, ſetting forth, that they furniſhed ſupplies to *William Plunket,* Eſq; and his aſſociates, Juſtices of the Peace for the county of *Northumberland,* in the year 1775, for the purpoſe of enforcing the laws of *Pennſylvania* at *Wyoming,* and for which they have received no compenſation; and praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from *Charles Smith* and *Simon Snyder*, Eſquires, was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in the county of *Northumberland*, read *November* 18th laſt, and requeſting the prayer thereof may not be granted, until the parties concerned ſhall be apprized of and have time to petition againſt it.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Heſlit* was read, ſetting forth, that he was employed to purchaſe proviſion for the army of the United States within this ſtate, and ſtating that conſiderable injury hath been done him in the ſettlement of his accounts; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Rector, Church-wardens and Veſtrymen of St. *David*'s, commonly called *Radnor* Church, in the county of *Delaware*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of incorporating their ſociety; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from the Board of Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College was read, ſetting forth the inſufficiency of their funds to accompliſh the laudable and benevolent deſigns of the inſtitution, and therefore praying the further countenance and patronage of the legiſlature.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Gurney*,

Ordered, That he be diſcharged from the committee appointed yeſterday, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the navigation of the rivers *Delaware*, *Schuylkill* and *Suſquehanna*, and that Mr. *Dering* be appointed in his place.

The motion made by Mr. *Finley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea*, *February* 11th, reſpecting the election of repreſentatives in the Congreſs of the United States, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wright*,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred, *December* 2d laſt, the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, ſtating their particular ſituation with reſpect to the tax laid in the year 1782, report the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to divide the taxes laid and aſſeſſed within *Peter*'s, townſhip, *Franklin* county, in the year 1782, into three equal parts, and to authoriſe the collection thereof in three annual payments, in addition with the current taxes of the year, with a proviſo, that the whole of each perſon's ſhare or proportion thereof, who ſhall neglect or refuſe to give ſecurity for the ſame, if required, ſhall be immediately levied and collected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate the exportation of pot-aſh and* "*pearl-aſh*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Fayette *into election* "*diſtricts,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, February 15, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Eaſton,* in the county of *Northampton,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of granting and confirming to the corporation of the burgeſſes and inhabitants of the ſaid borough, and their ſucceſſors, the excluſive right of keeping, for the uſe of the ſaid corporation, all ferries within the boundaries of the aforeſaid borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Turkey-Foot* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* was read, remonſtrating againſt being annexed to the county of *Fayette,* and praying the ſaid townſhip, together with thoſe of *Brothers Valley, Elk-lick, Milford* and *Quemahoning,* may be erected into a ſeparate county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from about 400 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Brothers Valley, Elk-lick, Quemahoning* and *Milford,* in the county of *Bedford,* were read, praying they may be erected into a ſeparate county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *John Penn,* junior, and *John Penn,* Eſquires, was read, ſetting forth, that they have at a conſiderable expence erected a ferry at the borough of *Eaſton,* acroſs the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh,* for the accommodation of travellers, and, in order to ſecure the ſole right of the ſaid ferry, reſerved the banks of thoſe rivers within the limits of the ſaid borough, and purchaſed the right of ſoil on the *Jerſey* ſhore and the lands in *William*'s townſhip, oppoſite to the ſaid borough; therefore praying this Houſe to grant unto them, and their heirs, the excluſive right of keeping a ferry in the ſaid borough, ſo far as their bank on each ſide of the ſaid rivers extends, under ſuch rules and regulations as may be deemed proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others, read *February* 13th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Markley,* to report thereon.

The petition of the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college, read *February* 13th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Lilly* and Mr. *Hoge,* to report thereon.

The petition of *William Heſlit,* read *February* 13th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the grand committee of claims, appointed *November* 3d laſt, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 24th laſt, on the memorial and petition of the Commiſſioners for the county of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The report of the committee, to whom was referred the memorial and petition of the Commiſſioners of the county of *Philadelphia.*

In the opinion of the committee, the ſubject of the memorial is improper for the interference of the legiſlature, becauſe it involves in it the due conſtruction of a contract long ſince entered into between the commonwealth and its citizens. Whether by the allowance of ſix *per cent.* which has uniformly been made in grants and patents of lands, the owners of ſuch land are precluded from further compenſations for ſuch part of it as may be taken for public roads and highways, it is the proper duty of the judicial authority to determine. If this queſtion hath already been determined, this Houſe can neither reſcind that deciſion, without a violation of their duties, nor reſtrain other perſons from ſimilar relief, without committing injuſtice.

The Commiſſioners could not have been ſubjected to the compulſory proceſs of which they complain, had not the county ſtock been judicially determined to be the proper fund, in ſuch caſes, for the re-imburſement of individuals. Hence the power of the Commiſſioners to raiſe a competent ſum for the purpoſe, when neceſſary, without the aſſiſtance of another ſtatute, becomes as evident, at that it is the duty of the Legiſlature to avoid increaſing the multitude of laws, unleſs the neceſſity for them is cogent and indiſputable.

If it is apprehended that the deciſion is erroneous in itſelf, or, from the limited juriſdiction of the court in which it was given, accompanied with leſs authority than its importance requires, it may be obſerved, that the Legiſlature is not a Court of Errors or Appeals; that if the caſe of which the Commiſſioners particularly complain cannot now be removed into the Supreme Court, it will be their duty to ſubmit the next application of the kind to that tribunal, whoſe reſpectable and concluſive deciſion may probably influence the future conduct of the ſtate in diſpoſing of its remaining lands, without exhibiting the diſhonorable ſpectacle of the ſovereign power conſtruing its own contracts, and perhaps accommodating that conſtruction to its own convenience.

The committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Commiſſioners of the county of *Philadelphia* have leave to withdraw their memorial and petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 1ſt laſt, on the petition of the Commiſſioners for *Dauphin* county, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *James Wilſon, Chriſtoper Uhler* and *Caſper Stover,* Commiſſioners of *Dauphin* county (in behalf of themſelves and the inhabitants of ſaid county) praying to have the rents of *Harris*'s ferry appropriated for erecting and ſupporting the public buildings for the uſe of ſaid county, report——

That they have had recourſe to the record of the original bond given by *John Harris,* whereby they find he binds himſelf to convey the ſaid ferry and landing (with other eſtates) to certain Truſtees therein named, for the uſe of the public, on condition that the bill, then publiſhed for conſideration,

tion, for erecting part of *Lancaſter* county into a ſeparate county, and eſtabliſhing the ſeat of juſtice on the lands of *John Harris*, ſhould be paſſed into a law; which having been done, a conveyance of ſaid ferry and landing (with other eſtates) was accordingly made: And as the fixing the ſeat of juſtice of ſaid county on the eſtate of the ſaid *John Harris* appears to have been his principal inducement for making the ſaid conveyance, and with reſpect to the inhabitants of the ſaid county, as that ſituation muſt ſubject many of them to inconveniences, by its being on one extremity of the county, the committee conceive they are entitled to ſome compenſation, and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for appropriating ſo much of the rents of the ferry called *Harris*'s ferry, as may be ſufficient for the purpoſe of compleating the erecting of the neceſſary public buildings for the uſe of *Dauphin* county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle*,

Ordered, That to-morrow week be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the officers of the Land-Office to iſſue warrants of re-location in the caſes therein deſcribed*," and that it be the order for that day.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clingan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the exiſting laws of this ſtate do not define, with ſufficient clearneſs, the mode of proceeding againſt Conſtables who neglect the faithful diſcharge of the duties of their ſaid office, and much inconveniency and undue delays of juſtice are thereby occaſioned: For remedy whereof, be it

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, providing a more ſpeedy and effectual mode of proceeding againſt Conſtables in caſe of neglect of duty.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Finley* and Mr. *Barr* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to provide for the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-Office," enacted the eighth day of *December*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the payment of the claim of* Turnbull, Marmie *and company*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 16, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Churchman*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The PETITION of JOHN CHURCHMAN, *of the City of* PHILADELPHIA.

Humbly and Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT he hath clearly demonſtrated that the magnetic needle hath an univerſal direction to two magnetic points, at certain diſtances, one from the north, the other from the ſouth pole of the earth; that the motions of the two magnetic points are equable and uniform round the two poles of the earth; that having determined the periods of revolution of the two magnetic points, he is enabled to determine the preciſe variation of the magnetic needle for any part of the globe, for any time, paſt, preſent, or to come; that if the variation of the needle and latitude of the place are truly given, the longitude of any place, on ſea or land, is eaſily determined with the greateſt preciſion; that he has prepared a great number of calculations, by which the ſaid principles are proved in ſuch a manner, that they have met with the approbation of ſome of the moſt learned mathematicians of the preſent age, as well in *America* as *Europe*; that he hath, by cloſe application, by ſeveral years labour, and great expence, laid down a variation chart, or map, of all the northern hemiſphere, on an entire new plan, by the help of which theſe principles are reduced to practice. A great part of the ſaid chart has been already engraved on copper-plate in this city, and is propoſed ſoon to be publiſhed by ſubſcription, on the ſeveral conditions hereunto annexed, but he finds, by experience, that ſoliciting ſubſcriptions from individuals is by no means an agreeable taſk.

Your petitioner, well knowing that the Repreſentatives of the freemen of *Pennſylvania* are famed for their encouragement of all meaſures tending to promote the progreſs of ſcience, he is encouraged to hope that this variation chart may with propriety come under their patronage; becauſe, if the inhabitants of *Pennſylvania* were conſidered to be formed in two claſſes, *viz.* the landed intereſt, and the mercantile intereſt, it would perhaps be found really uſeful to each claſs, for the following reaſons: *Firſt,* As the lands in *Pennſylvania,* as well as the other ſtates, are held by courſe and diſtance, the courſe, according to the magnet, being ſubject to a great variation, it ſeems highly neceſſary that the laws which govern the variation ſhould be aſcertained, otherwiſe the boundaries of the land cannot be perpetuated. *Laſtly,* Without the aſſiſtance of the magnetic needle, the moſt ſkillful mariner gets bewildered on his way; therefore, a true knowledge of the theory of the variation, on this account, muſt be equally uſeful.

Your petitioner therefore prays, that the Houſe will be pleaſed to beſtow ſuch encouragement upon him, and ſo far patronize his plans, as to them ſhall ſeem expedient. And, as in duty bound, he will ever pray.

JOHN CHURCHMAN.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia* was read, ſuggeſting divers amendments to the act, and ſupplement thereto, for amending the penal laws of this ſtate, and ſtating the impropriety of confining debtors in common with perſons charged with or convicted of miſdemeanors,

meanors, vagrants and diſorderly perſons, and recommending to the conſideration of this Houſe the ſevere caſe of perſons confined as witneſſes in criminal proſecutions, and afterwards for their fees; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

A memorial and petition from the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia*, in Common Council aſſembled, was read, ſtating certain inconveniences which the citizens labour under, and ſuggeſting the propriety of paſſing an act, authoriſing the Common Council to legiſlate for the city in all caſes that concern the internal police and government thereof as a city, and which ſhall not interfere with the conſtitution and general laws which concern them in common with the other citizens of the ſtate; therefore praying the premiſes may be taken into conſideration, and that an act may be paſſed explanatory of and ſupplementary to the act, entituled "*An Act* "*to incorporate the city of* Philadelphia," to remove the difficulties that oppoſe their endeavours in promoting the good purpoſes for which the ſaid city was incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 12th inſtant, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the petition of *Reading Howell*, &c. made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the north line of the ſtate being delineated in *Reading Howell*'s map, under the authority of this ſtate, report——

That in their opinion the meaſure recommended by Council would be very proper; but as no proviſion is made with regard to the other lines of the ſtate, it ſeems equally eligible that all the ſtate lines ſhould be engraved, and publicly known: And as the ſtate will no doubt encourage Mr. *Howell* in his uſeful and expenſive publication, for which purpoſe a bill is depending before the Houſe, your committee conceive, that if he were furniſhed with the documents in poſſeſſion of Council on this ſubject, he would cheerfully introduce delineations of all the ſtate lines into his map, on a compenſation equal to the expence being paid him, which will no doubt be conſidered by the Houſe in filling up the blanks in the ſaid bill. Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a clauſe be inſerted in the bill now before the Houſe, entituled "*An Act in favour of* Reading Howell," authoriſing him, under the directions of Council, to delineate in his map the lines of this ſtate, as eſtabliſhed by law, or otherwiſe agreed on and aſcertained.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for ſettling the accounts of* James Rowan, *late Collector of taxes in the* "*county of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, ſo much of the act of Aſſembly to regulate* "*the fiſheries in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, *as relates to the erecting* "*of platforms to the dams therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the memorial and petition of the Commiſſioners of the county of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Commiſſioners of the county of *Philadelphia* have leave to withdraw their memorial and petition.

The report on the petitions of the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, in the county of *Northumberland*, and of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Peter*'s, *Bald-Eagle*, *Lack*, *Milford*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, in the county of *Mifflin*, read *December* 7th laſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That that part of the ſaid report, which relates to the petition of the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver* townſhip, be re-committed, and that the petition of *Charles Smith* and *Simon Snyder* be referred to the ſame committee.

Ordered, That the remainder of the ſaid report, relative to the petitions of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Peter*'s, *Bald-Eagle*, *Lack*, *Milford*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, in the county of *Mifflin*, be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Cunningham*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Harris* and Mr. *Lloyd*, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Harris*,

To add three members to the laſt named committee.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Eaſton*, in the county of *Northampton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Paul*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Balliot*, to report thereon.

The memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Samuel Moore*, read *February* 11th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reimburſe* Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham *and* Andrew Sweringen, *for monies advanced by them in defence of the frontiers of* Waſhington *county*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *February* 17, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Waſhington*, *Turbutt* and *Derry*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying they may by law be enabled to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Daniel Cruger*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Lytle*, of the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1774 he mortgaged a certain tract of land to the Truſtees of the General Loan-Office for the ſum of *one hundred and twenty-four pounds*; that by reaſon of divers caſualties and misfortunes he is become unable to diſcharge the ſame; and praying this Houſe to ſtay proceedings, and grant him further time for the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *John Donnaldſon*, Eſquire, Regiſter-General, ſtating certain official tranſactions between him and the Comptroller-General, was read, together with the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made further report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means beg leave further to report——

That it has not been in their power to procure ſuch a ſtatement of the public accounts between this and the United States, or of this ſtate, as would enable the committee to ſuggeſt any plans, or to give the Aſſembly a proper idea of the finances of the ſtate, an object very deſirable, and one which the committee have much at heart, from a conviction it is of great importance to the public, that every member of its legiſlature ſhould have a full and competent knowledge of the debts and revenues of the ſtate. The committee take leave to ſuggeſt the appointment of a ſpecial committee, to enquire, and inform the Houſe, what have been the cauſes that have prevented this buſineſs from being brought forward.

The Regiſter-General has furniſhed a ſtate of the receipts of taxes from 1ſt *October*, 1789, to the 13th *February*, 1790, amounting to *twenty-eight thouſand five hundred and forty-four pounds four ſhillings and two-pence*, and *two thouſand eight hundred and thirty-four pounds nineteen ſhillings*, in ſtate money, for funding and ſinking ſtate money; alſo on account of impoſt *twenty-ſix thouſand three hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds five ſhillings and one penny*; he alſo ſtates, that there are conſiderable ſums due on the carriage tax, which has been but very little attended to; that out of *twelve thouſand two hundred and fifty-five pounds ten ſhillings*, laid in the city and county of *Philadelphia* for the laſt ſeven years, only *eight hundred and ſixty-three pounds ſeven ſhillings and nine-pence* have been paid into the treaſury. The committee are of opinion, that the State Treaſurer ſhould be directed to call upon the County Treaſurers, forthwith to furniſh duplicates, up to the preſent time, of the carriage taxes which have been laid in their reſpective counties, together with the abatements made by the Commiſſioners; alſo to furniſh an alphabetical liſt of the name of each perſon within their reſpective counties, who ſhall be indebted for any part of the public taxes prior to the commencement of the funding ſyſtem. It alſo appears proper to your committee, that the tax on writs ſhould be extended to all ſuch counties whoſe circumſtances will admit of it. The additional ſupplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia, ſo far as it directs the uſe of gun-powder on battalion days, has not, in the opinion of the committee, produced thoſe ſalutary effects that were expected, and can only occaſion an expence, without affording the leaſt advantage to the ſtate.

The following reſolutions are ſubmitted for the deciſion of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to enquire, and report the reaſons, why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe agreeably to law.

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer be directed to call upon the County Treaſurers, reſpectively, for duplicates of the carriage tax, as laid in each county, noting any allowances which the Commiſſioners may have made.

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer be, and he is hereby authorized to demand from the Treaſurer of each county within this ſtate, an alphabetical liſt of the name and ſirname of each and every perſon or perſons, within their reſpective counties, who, on the firſt day of *November*, 1790, ſhall owe or be indebted for any part of the public taxes aſſeſſed prior to the year 1786, which liſt ſhall be laid before the General Aſſembly on or before the firſt day of *January*, 1791.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to extend the tax upon writs to the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Bedford, Northumberland, Waſhington, Fayette, Franklin, Montgomery, Dauphin, Delaware* and *Mifflin*, or ſo many of ſaid counties as may be thought proper.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of the additional Supplement to the Acts for the regulation of the militia of this commonwealth, as directs the county lieutenants to furniſh cartridges to the militia on battalion days.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Churchman,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Maclay,* to report thereon.

The report of the committee on ways and means, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, read *February* 13th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle,*

Ordered, That the ſame be re-committed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the renewal of certificates in the caſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 18, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the committee of the Carpenters Company of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the ſaid company may be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Heiſler* was read, ſetting forth, that he ſupplied the Lieutenant of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* with a quantity of gunpowder, for the uſe of the militia, and ſtating that the militia funds are inſufficient to diſcharge the claims thereupon, in conſequence of which he has not been enabled to obtain payment; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Schrater* was read, praying he may be authorized by law to eſtabliſh a ferry acroſs the river *Youghiogeny*, on the north bank of ſaid river, oppoſite the ferry of *John Summerville.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 444 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Brothers Valley*, *Elk-Lick*, *Quemahoning* and *Milford*, in the county of *Bedford*, were read, praying ſaid townſhips may be erected into a ſeparate county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the ſaid townſhips, and of divers inhabitants of *Turkey-Foot* townſhip, read *February* 15th inſtant, be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Finley* and Mr. *Gore*, to report thereon.

The committee on claims, to whom was referred, *February* 15th, the petition of *William Heſlit*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, to whom was referred the petition of *William Heſlit*, beg leave to report——

That they have conſidered the ſubject repreſented in his petition, and are of opinion that the Houſe cannot with propriety grant him any relief; and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 12th, on the petition of divers of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition from divers of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, praying a ſum of money may be granted for the purpoſe of opening and finiſhing a certain road ſpecified in ſaid petition, are ſenſible of the uſefulneſs of having good roads in every county, and would chearfully concur with the petitioners, would our funds or finances juſtify them; but as there is no money unappropriated, your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 12th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the appointment of two Truſtees of that part of the *Province-Iſland* which belongs to this ſtate, in the room of *John Bayard* and *Robert Knox*, Eſquires, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of Council reſpecting the appointing two perſons Truſtees for *Province-Iſland*, in the room of *Robert Knox*, deceaſed, and *John Bayard*, removed from this ſtate, report——

That agreeable to an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twenty-ſeventh day of *November*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine, it is enacted, that the Aſſembly ſhall appoint, by vote, Truſtees for *Province-Iſland*; and as *Robert Knox*, one of the Truſtees, is ſince dead, and *John Bayard*, one other of the Truſtees, is removed out of the ſtate, it is therefore neceſſary to appoint two Truſtees in their room; for which reaſon they offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Aſſembly will, on *Saturday* next, appoint two perſons Truſtees, in the room of *John Bayard* and *Robert Knox*; the perſons ſo to be appointed, together with the other Truſtee, to be the Truſtees for that part of the *State* or *Province-Iſland* which belongs to the ſtate, agreeably to the acts of General Aſſembly in that caſe made.

The committee appointed *December* 8th laſt, on the reſolution reſpecting the defence of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with Council on the ſubject of a defence for the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate againſt the hoſtile incurſions of the *Indians,* report——

That they have had a conference with a committee of Council on that ſubject; that the joint committees were of opinion that ſome proviſion ought to be made againſt the future depredations of the *Indians,* and that for this purpoſe they were further of opinion that the ſum of *five hundred pounds* would be ſufficient for the preſent year: Wherefore they beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to empower the Supreme Executive Council to provide for the defence of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate againſt the hoſtile incurſions of the *Indians,* and to appropriate a ſum not exceeding *five hundred pounds,* out of the revenues of the ſtate, to defray the expences thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter of *John Donnaldſon,* Eſquire, Regiſter-General, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Ryerſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Lytle,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Vaux,* to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Waſhington, Turbutt* and *Derry,* in the county of *Northumberland,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Maclay,* Mr. *White* and Mr. *D. Stewart,* to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia,* read *February* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city of *Philadelphia,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Boys,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to viſit the *Pennſylvania Hoſpital,* and report the preſent ſtate thereof to this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Reiff* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *Finley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall,*

To re-conſider the reſolution of this Houſe of the 5th of *December* laſt, appointing a committee to bring in a bill for annexing the townſhip of *Turkey-Foot,* in *Bedford* county, to the county of *Fayette.*

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to re-conſider?*"

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan*,

To re-conſider the reſolution adopted the eleventh inſtant on the report of the committee on ways and means, relative to that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the claims of widows and children of deceaſed officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, *&c.*

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan*,

To ſtrike out the following words from the ſaid reſolution, *viz.* " *to be* " *paid out of the intereſt ariſing from the Loan-Office.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution, as amended, adopted.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſettling the accounts of* James Rowan, " *late Collector of taxes in the county of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes* " *therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to pro- " vide for the ſalaries of the Officers of the Land-Office," enacted the eighth day of *December,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 19, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1239 inhabitants reſiding in the eaſtern parts of *Dauphin* county were read, ſtating the great difficulties they labour under in attending the courts of juſtice at *Harriſburg,* and praying that a tract of country by them deſcribed may be erected into a ſeparate county, agreeably to the lines therein mentioned, and that the ſeat of juſtice may be fixed at *Lebanon.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 209 inhabitants of the north-weſtern parts of the county of *Berks* were read, praying that the petitions of the inhabitants reſiding in the eaſtern parts of *Dauphin* county for a diviſion of ſaid county may be granted, and that they be annexed to the county ſo to be erected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moreland, Abington, Cheltenham* and *Springfield,* in the county of *Montgomery,* was read, praying they may be re-annexed to the county of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of Roman Catholics of the *Holy Trinity* Church, in the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that they have at a conſiderable expence erected a free ſchool for the education of the poor youth of the ſaid congregation, and praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of granting unto them a part of the unappropriated lands for the endowment of the ſaid ſchool.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *George Ingels,* Inſpector of ſtaves and heading, was read, ſetting forth, that there are divers defects in the laws relative to the inſpection of ſtaves and heading, and praying the ſame may be altered and amended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a committee of the Carpenters Company of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Peter Heiſler,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the grand committee on claims, appointed *November* 3d laſt, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *William Heſlit,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *William Heſlit* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The further report of the committee on ways and means, read *February* 17th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to enquire, and report the reaſons, why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Ryerſon* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer be directed to call upon the County Treaſurers, reſpectively, for duplicates of the carriage tax, as laid in each county, noting any allowances which the Commiſſioners may have made.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of the additional ſupplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of this commonwealth, as directs the County Lieutenants to furniſh cartridges to the militia on battalion days.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Ihrie* and Mr. *Alliſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the remainder of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,*

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this Houſe, that the accumulated arrearages of public taxes have ariſen in a conſiderable degree from the negligence of the perſons whoſe proper duty it was to collect them, and from the unneceſſary and illegal indulgences extended in ſuch caſes; that the means provided in the exiſting laws are ſufficient, if duly enforced, to compel the payment of ſuch arrearages; that it is expedient for the intereſt of the commonwealth that the arrearages of its taxes ſhould be collected without delay; and that the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to enforce the due execution of the laws in this behalf.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion of Mr. *Finley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea,* poſtponed *February* 13th, relative to the election of Repreſentatives in the Congreſs of the United States.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That *Melchior Steiner*, printer, has preſented his account for publiſhing ſundry bills of the laſt ſeſſion of this Houſe in the *German* language, amounting to the ſum of *twenty-three pounds ten ſhillings and four-pence*, which ſum appearing to be due to the ſaid *Melchior Steiner*, your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favour of *Melchior Steiner*, printer, for the ſum of *twenty-three pounds ten ſhillings and four-pence*, in full of his account.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to compenſate* William Lyon, *Eſquire*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act directing the payment of the accounts of ſundry Deputy Surveyors of the depreciation lands*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for founding and endowing a public ſchool in the town and county of* Huntingdon.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act to provide for the ſalaries of the Officers of the Land-Office."

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 20, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, February* 19*th*, 1790.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to you a reſolve of Council of this day, relative to a petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Northampton*, reſiding on or near the *Neſcopeck* road.

I am, SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the reſolution encloſed was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Maclay*, to report thereon.

A letter from *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, Comptroller-General, was read, containing remarks in anſwer to the letter from *John Donnaldſon*, Eſquire, Regiſter-General, read *February* 17th inſtant; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with its encloſures, be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Ryerſon*, to report thereon.

The petition of *George Ingels*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moreland*, *Abington*, *Cheltenham* and *Springfield*, in the county of *Montgomery*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lloyd*, to report thereon.

The memorial of the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of *Roman Catholics* of the *Holy Trinity* church, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *Miley*, to report thereon.

The petitions of 1239 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Dering*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *White* and Mr. *Riley*, to report thereon.

The petitions of 209 inhabitants of the north-weſtern parts of the county of *Berks*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Britton* and Mr. *Lloyd* be added to the committee appointed *November* 19th laſt, reſpecting the act, entituled "*An Act for* "*amending the penal laws of this ſtate.*"

The petition of *William Schrater*, read *February* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Baird*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Nevil*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of two Truſtees, in the room of *John Bayard* and *Robert Knox*, Eſquires, for that part of the *Province* or *State-Iſland* which belongs to the ſtate, agreeably to the act of General Aſſembly in that caſe made, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Samuel Miles*, Eſquire, and *Peter Dehaven*, were duly elected.

The report on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, read *February* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report on the petition of *Nathaniel Hurſt* and others, read *December* 5th laſt, was read the ſecond time; and the reſolution therein contained being under conſideration,

A motion was made by Mr. *Finley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*,

To amend the ſame, ſo as to read as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to give further time to *Nathaniel Hurſt*, and all others in like circumſtances, for the purpoſe of regiſtering of ſuch Negroe and Mulattoe children as they are poſſeſſed of, who have been born ſince the firſt day of *March*, 1780.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?*"

It was carried in the negative: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for further enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* " An Act " for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year " one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of " the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands " which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for " the lands by them occupied," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Purſuant to leave granted, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Carpenters Company of the city and county of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate the exportation of Pot-Aſh and* " *Pearl-Aſh*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *February* 22, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Martha Flower*, widow of *Benjamin Flower*, deceaſed, late Colonel of a regiment of artillery and artificers in the ſervice of the United States, was read, praying ſhe may be by law entitled to all the emoluments granted to officers of the like rank in the ſervice aforeſaid, by virtue of certain acts of Congreſs, dated *May* 15th, 1778, and *Auguſt* 24th, 1780; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *D. Stewart*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Mary Harriſon* was read, ſetting forth, that *Joſeph Galloway* became indebted to her in the ſum of *one thouſand four hundred pounds*, ſterling money of *Great-Britain*, on the 8th day of *June*, 1770; that the ſaid *Joſeph Galloway* was afterwards attainted of high treaſon, and his eſtate forfeited to and ſold for the uſe of the commonwealth; that the petitioner filed her claim in the Supreme Court, and obtained a decree againſt the ſaid eſtate, but the ſaid court limited the exchange at the low rate of *one hundred and fifty-five pounds*, *Pennſylvania* currency, for *one hundred pounds* ſterling, which remains unpaid, and thereupon ſhe applied to the court for a reviſion of ſaid decree, for the purpoſe of altering the rate of exchange, but the Juſtices of the ſame court conceived themſelves precluded from re-conſidering the ſubject; therefore praying this Houſe to grant her relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th laſt, on the memorial and petition of the Biſcuit-Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia*, and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Biſcuit-Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia*, report——

That in their opinion it is at leaſt doubtful, whether it would not be inconſiſtent with the conſtitution of the United States for any individual ſtate to make the regulations requeſted in the ſaid petition, without having firſt obtained the conſent of the United States; nor does the utility of the regulation propoſed appear to the committee ſo obvious, as to render it expedient to make ſuch application on the part of this ſtate to the United States: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Biſcuit-Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia* have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th laſt, on the petition of the Loaf-bread Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia,* and the vicinity thereof, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Bakers of loaf bread of the city of *Philadelphia,* and the vicinity thereof, report——

That the requeſt contained in the petition appears to have originated from a laudable deſire of promoting the health and welfare of their fellow-citizens, yet as the laws in force, if duly executed, are ſufficiently competent to prevent the repetitions of the frauds and adulterations of bread complained of, the committee apprehend the farther interference of the Legiſlature would be unneceſſary: The following reſolution is ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia,* and the vicinity thereof, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 18th, on the petition of *John Lytle,* of *Northumberland* county, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *John Lytle,* of *Northumberland* county, report——

That in the opinion of your committee this Houſe ought to be extremely cautious in interfering with the executive part of government, but at the ſame time, where lenity can be extended to the unfortunate, without injury to the public, it ought to be done: And as it appears to your committee that the petitioner, *John Lytle*'s, caſe is ſingular and diſtreſſing, that his ſuffering is neither the effect of folly or vice, but the effect of a train of misfortunes that he could neither foreſee or prevent, and as he only prays for a reſpite for ſome time, and as the ſtate can ſtill be ſecured in the balance due her, your committee are of opinion that the prayer of his petition ought to be granted: Influenced by theſe conſiderations, your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

That it be recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to ſtay any farther proceedings againſt the ſaid *John Lytle,* of *Northumberland* county, for ſuch time as they may judge reaſonable and proper, and take ſuch other ſteps as they judge neceſſary in order to ſecure the ſtate; and that this reſolution, together with the petition of *John Lytle,* be tranſmitted to Council.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 20th laſt, on the petition of a number of the draymen of the city of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of a number of the draymen of the city of *Philadelphia* report——

That the prayer of this petition is founded on the ſuppoſed hardſhip of enforcing the execution of a law paſſed in the year 1769, of which the petitioners alledge they were ignorant, at the time of providing themſelves with carriages contrary to the proviſions which it eſtabliſhes. This induces the committee to obſerve, that it is a general principle, neceſſary for the ſafety of ſociety, that a breach of the law cannot be juſtified by the ignorance of the offender. Were the contrary propoſition admitted, all approaches to knowledge and improvement would be diſcouraged; he who wiſhed to eſcape puniſhment would be ſure to ſhun information, and, with the efficacy of the laws, the benefits of civil ſociety would be deſtroyed. Of the caſe particularly in queſtion the committee have only to remark, that the general relaxation of internal regulations, occaſioned by the incidents of the late war, may perhaps ſuggeſt a lenient execution of the act, but that this Houſe cannot grant the prayer of the petition, without endangering principles neceſſary to give effect to their own legiſlative procedures: And they ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That leave be given to withdraw the petition preſented by a number of the draymen of the city of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means, to whom was re-committed, *February* 17th inſtant, the petition of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in *Franklin* county, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means, to whom was re-committed the petition of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in *Franklin* county, ſtating that *Thomas M'Dowell* had been appointed Collector of taxes in ſaid townſhip in the place of *Robert Wilſon,* who had refuſed to ſerve; that *M'Dowell* did not chooſe to perform ſaid duty, from an idea that his appointment, coming from the Commiſſioners of *Cumberland* county, was illegal; that had the taxes of the year 1782 been demanded in due time, money could have been eaſily raiſed to diſcharge the tax aforeſaid; that demanding the whole now would be attended with ruinous oppreſſion; and praying the Houſe to authoriſe the Commiſſioners of *Franklin* county to proportion ſaid tax, to be paid by three or four annual inſtalments.

The ſeventh ſection of the act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the ninth *September,* 1784, directs that all taxes or arrears of taxes laid, directed to be laid, or become due within *Franklin* county, before the paſſing of ſaid act, ſhall be levied and collected in like manner as if ſaid act had not been paſſed; from which your committee conclude, that the powers of the Commiſſioners of *Cumberland* are as effectual at this time as they were in the year 1782, ſo far as reſpects the appointment of perſons to collect the arrears of taxes in *Peter*'s townſhip, laid prior to the diviſion of ſaid county, without the further intervention of the Legiſlature. The committee are

alſo

alſo inclined to believe, that ſeven years uſe of money will be a ſufficient compenſation to individuals for any diſadvantage they may have experienced from the delay complained of; and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in *Franklin* county, have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal part of the additional ſupplement to the acts for the regulation* "*of the militia of this commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate the exportation of Pot-Aſh and* "*Pearl-Aſh,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion,

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Carpenters* "*Company of the city and county of* Philadelphia," be committed to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Aſhmead* and Mr. *Britton.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 23, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the truſtees of the public ſchool of *Germantown* was read, ſetting forth, that they have erected a ſeminary of learning for the education of youth, but that the ſaid town abounds with children, whoſe parents, although induſtrious, are not in circumſtances to afford them proper education, nor do the funds ariſing from private benefactions enable the truſtees to extend their aſſiſtance beyond the compaſs of a ſmall number of the deſtitute youth of both ſexes, and praying a part of the unappropriated lands may be granted them, with ſuch other aids as this Houſe may deem proper for preſent relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Thorn* was read, together with a certificate accompanying the ſame, ſetting forth, that he has expended a ſum of money in removing the obſtructions and clearing the navigation of the *Delaware,* at *Wells*'s and *Howell*'s Falls, a part of which hath been repaid him by individuals reſiding on and near the ſaid river; nevertheleſs a balance ſtill remains due to him of *forty pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence* for thoſe ſervices rendered to the public; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him ſuch compenſation as they may judge proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 18th, on the petitions of the inhabitants of *Brothers Valley, Elk-lick, Quemahoning, Milford,* and *Turkey-Foot* townſhips, in the county of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of ſundry inhabitants of *Bedford* county, beg leave to report——

That although the ſeat of juſtice in ſaid county is very inconvenient to the petitioners, yet theſe townſhips being thinly ſettled, they are at preſent too weak to be erected into a ſeparate county, eſpecially as there is a committee appointed to bring in a bill to annex *Turkey-Foot* townſhip to the county of *Fayette:* We therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitions of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Turkey-Foot*, *Brothers Valley*, *Elk-lick*, *Milford* and *Quemahoning*, in the county of *Bedford*, praying to be erected into a ſeparate county, cannot at this time be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *White*,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the officers of the Land-Office to iſſue warrants of re-" location in the caſes therein deſcribed,*" be poſtponed until *Friday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The committee appointed *February* 15th, on the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others, report——

That your committee are of opinion, that as the magiſtrates of the county of *Northumberland* were acting under the authority and by the direction of government, thoſe perſons who furniſhed them with the neceſſary ſupplies on that occaſion are entitled to a reaſonable compenſation for the ſame, but from the length of time that has elapſed ſince this buſineſs was tranſacted, and from the form in which the claimants have brought forward their accounts, your committee are unable to determine on the propriety of admitting them; but in order that juſtice may be done to thoſe who furniſhed neceſſary ſupplies, and in order to prevent the ſtate from being charged with any unjuſt or unneceſſary expence, they ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to appoint ſuitable perſons to meet at the town of *Sunbury*, who, after due notice given to the claimants, ſhall proceed to examine all claims made for proviſions and ſupplies furniſhed the magiſtrates in their attempt to enforce the laws of *Pennſylvania* at *Wyoming*, in ſuch way, and under ſuch regulations, as Council ſhall direct and appoint; and the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall report their proceedings to Council for their approbation, and to be by them tranſmitted to the Comptroller-General for his examination; and empowering the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the payment of ſuch allowed claims, as alſo a reaſonable compenſation to the ſaid Commiſſioners.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *John Lytle*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be re-committed.

The report read *February* 18th inſtant, on the ſubject of the defence of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Ryerſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to ſubſtitute the following motion in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Whereas it hath been repreſented to this Houſe, from good authority, that the *Indians* have in every year, for many years paſt, harraſſed and diſtreſſed the inhabitants on the weſtern frontiers of this ſtate, and are likely to continue ſo to do, unleſs ſome proviſion is made againſt their future murders and depredations: And whereas this commonwealth is deſirous of procuring protection and ſafety for all its citizens, in as much as the peace, welfare and happineſs of the ſtate depend thereon.

Reſolved, That this Houſe hereby recommend to the Supreme Executive Council to make application to the Preſident and Congreſs of the United States, requeſting a protection for the inhabitants of the weſtern frontiers of this ſtate againſt the future hoſtile incurſions of the *Indians,* and that this reſolution be tranſmitted to Council, that they may take immediate meaſures thereon.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the* " *purpoſe aforeſaid?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the motion adopted.

The report on the petition of the Loaf-bread Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia,* and the vicinity thereof, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Bakers of the city of *Philadelphia* and the vicinity thereof, have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the petition of the Biſcuit-bakers of the city of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Biſcuit-bakers of the city of *Philadelphia,* have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the petition of a number of the draymen of the city of *Philadelphia,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That leave be given to withdraw the petition preſented by a number of the draymen of the city of *Philadelphia.*

A motion was made by Mr. *Vaux,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,* in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to conſider the moſt proper mode of appointing the next Repreſentatives for this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and report what they think moſt proper thereon: Whereupon

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Boys,*

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next, and that the ſame, together with the motion made by Mr. *Finley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea, February* 11th, be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 19th laſt, on that part of the report reſpecting the act, entituled " *An Act to encourage and pro-* " *tect the manufactures of this ſtate,*" be diſcharged.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle* be added to the committee appointed *November* 4th, to bring in a bill to alter and amend the bankrupt laws, *&c.*

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney* be added to the committee appointed *November* 9th, to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of altering and amending the poor laws of this commonwealth.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, ſo much of the* " *act of Aſſembly to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, "*as relates to the erecting of platforms to the dams therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 24, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Eaſt-Conococheague,* in the county of *Franklin,* was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 18th, to viſit the *Pennſylvania Hoſpital,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to viſit the *Pennſylvania Hoſpital* beg leave to report——

That they have performed that ſervice, and had the ſatisfaction to find that the ſeveral wards and apartments, as well as the patients in ſaid hoſpital, were kept clean, warm and comfortable, and the œconomy of the houſe merits great approbation.

On comparing the accounts of ſeveral years, your committee were pleaſed to find that the capital ſtock of ſaid hoſpital has increaſed within the laſt ſeven years between *ſix* and *ſeven thouſand pounds,* owing to the contributions of well-diſpoſed perſons; but they are ſorry to ſay, that the funds are yet too ſmall to enable the Managers to render the inſtitution ſo extenſively uſeful as it formerly was, the late war having leſſened their capital about *ten thouſand pounds.* The capital at this time produces about *nine hundred pounds* a year, and they expend nearly twice that ſum.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 18th, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Waſhington, Turbutt* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Northumberland,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of *Waſhington, Turbutt* and *Derry* townſhips, in *Northumberland* county, report——

That it appears to your committee that the petitioners are ſituate at an inconvenient diſtance from the place, where by law they are obliged to meet for the purpoſe of holding their annual elections: And whereas, agreeably to the eighteenth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth, in order that the freemen of this commonwealth may enjoy the benefit of election as equally as may be, until the repreſentation ſhall commence as directed in the foregoing ſection, each county, at its own choice, may be divided into diſtricts, *&c.* your committee ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to enable the inhabitants of *Waſhington, Turbutt* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Northumberland,* to hold their annual elections at the houſe now occupied by *Daniel Cruger.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Mary Harriſon,* read *February* 22d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *Ryerſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Thorn,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to the committee on claims, to report thereon.

The report of the committee on the petition of the commiſſioners of *Dauphin* county, read *February* 15th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, for appropriating ſo much of the rents of the ferry called *Harris*'s ferry, as may be ſufficient for the purpoſe of compleating the erecting of the neceſſary public buildings for the uſe of *Dauphin* county.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Erb* and Mr. *Lilly* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on ways and means, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* read *February* 22d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the inhabitants of *Peter*'s townſhip, in *Franklin* county, have leave to withdraw their petition.

Agreeably to leave given, *November* 30th laſt, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, in order to take into conſideration the amendments propoſed by Congreſs to the conſtitution of the United States.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in diſcuſſing the ſubject,

The Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of the whole Houſe beg leave to report——

That they have deliberately conſidered the ſeveral articles of amendment propoſed by the Congreſs of the United States, and ſubmit the following reſolutions, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe do ratify the following articles, propoſed by the Congreſs of the United States as amendments to the conſtitution of the United States, *viz.*

ART. III. Congreſs ſhall make no law reſpecting an eſtabliſhment of religion, or prohibiting the free exerciſe thereof; or abridging the freedom of ſpeech, or of the preſs; or the right of the people peaceably to aſſemble, and to petition the government for a redreſs of grievances.

ART. IV. A well regulated militia being neceſſary to the ſecurity of a free ſtate, the right of the people to keep and bear arms ſhall not be infringed.

ART. V. No ſoldier ſhall in time of peace be quartered in any houſe without the conſent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be preſcribed by law.

ART. VI. The right of the people to be ſecure in their perſons, houſes, papers and effects, againſt unreaſonable ſearches and ſeizures, ſhall not be violated; and no warrants ſhall iſſue but upon probable cauſe, ſupported by oath or affirmation, and particularly deſcribing the place to be ſearched, and the perſons or things to be ſeized.

ART. VII. No perſon ſhall be held to anſwer for a capital, or otherwiſe infamous crime, unleſs on a preſentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in caſes ariſing in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual ſervice in time of war or public danger; nor ſhall any perſon be ſubject, for the ſame offence, to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor ſhall be compelled, in any criminal caſe, to be a witneſs againſt himſelf, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due proceſs of law; nor ſhall private property be taken for public uſe, without juſt compenſation.

ART. VIII. In all criminal proſecutions, the accuſed ſhall enjoy the right to a ſpeedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the ſtate and diſtrict wherein the crime ſhall have been committed, which diſtrict ſhall have been previouſly aſcertained by law; and to be informed of the nature and cauſe of the accuſation; to be confronted with the witneſſes againſt him; to have compulſory proceſs for obtaining witneſſes in his favour, and to have the aſſiſtance of Counſel for his defence.

ART. IX. In ſuits at common law, where the value in controverſy ſhall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury ſhall be preſerved; and no fact, tried by a jury, ſhall be otherwiſe re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

ART. X. Exceſſive bail ſhall not be required, nor exceſſive fines impoſed, nor cruel and unuſual puniſhments inflicted.

ART. XI. The enumeration in the conſtitution of certain rights ſhall not be conſtrued to deny or diſparage others retained by the people.

ART. XII. The powers not delegated to the United States by the conſtitution, nor prohibited by it to the ſtates, are reſerved to the ſtates reſpectively, or to the people.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes contained in the above reſolution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 25, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of *Philadelphia*, in the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, was read, ſetting forth, that the funds of the ſaid College, *&c.* have become inſufficient to anſwer the laudable purpoſes of the inſtitution; and praying, that in as much as the ſame is the moſt antient ſeminary in the ſtate, they may not remain alone unendowed, and unaſſiſted with the public bounty.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Leonard Young* was read, ſtating his preſent diſtreſſed ſituation, occaſioned by wounds received during the late war and other caſualties, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant him relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 17th, on the petition of *John Churchman*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *John Churchman*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, praying for the patronage and aſſiſtance of this Houſe to enable him to carry into effect certain principles, by which he is enabled (as is by him ſet forth) to determine the preciſe variation of the magnetic needle, for any part of the globe, for any time, paſt, preſent, or to come, and to aſcertain thereby the longitude of any place, by ſea or land, report—

That they have conferred with the ſaid *John Churchman*, and enquired into the principles aforeſaid; and although your committee cannot undertake to define the properties, or to deſcribe all the uſes or benefits which may ariſe from the application of the principles aforeſaid, yet they will hazard an opinion that the charts or maps delineated by, and now engraving under the direction of, the ſaid *John Churchman*, may have a great tendency to lead into further diſcoveries of the true principles and laws of the variation of the magnetic needle, the application thereof to the uſeful purpoſe of regulating ſurveys of land, and poſſibly to the diſcovery of the longitude at ſea and land, as ſet forth by the petitioner.

Your committee, under this belief, and underſtanding the expence of engraving the ſaid charts or maps will be heavy for the petitioner to bear, and being unwilling to ſuffer any improvements in ſcience to be loſt to the public, are of opinion that the aſſiſtance of the Legiſlature ſhould be extended to the petitioner, for the purpoſe aforeſaid: Therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, directing the Supreme Executive Council to ſubſcribe for ſets of *John Churchman*'s "Variation Charts or Maps of all the Northern Hemiſphere," (agreeably to the terms propoſed by him for the publication thereof) for the uſe of this ſtate, to be diſtributed as the Legiſlature may hereafter direct; to be paid for out of the fund particularly ſet apart by law for improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Turkey-Foot*, *Brothers Valley*, *Elk-lick*, *Milford* and *Quemahoning* townſhips, in the county of *Bedford*, read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitions of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Turkey-Foot*, *Brothers Valley*, *Elk-lick*, *Milford* and *Quemahoning*, in the county of *Bedford*, praying to be erected into a ſeparate county, cannot at this time be granted.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motions made *February* 13th and *February* 23d, reſpecting the election of Repreſentatives for this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States.

Mr. *Finley* then withdrew his motion made *February* 13th, ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea*,

And the motion of Mr. *Vaux* and Mr. *Kennedy* was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to conſider the moſt expedient mode of appointing Repreſentatives for this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and report what they think moſt proper thereon.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea*,

To appoint a grand committee, conſiſting of a member from each county, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to appoint a grand committee?*"

It was carried in the negative. Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Dering*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Nevil*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the ſaid reſolution.

The petition of the Truſtees of the public ſchool of *Germantown*, read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Aſhmead*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Moore*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Congregation belonging to St.* David'*s (commonly called* Radnor) *Church, in the county of* Delaware," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal part of the additional ſupplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of this commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for further enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* "An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for the lands by them occupied," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the renewal of certificates in the caſes therein mentioned.*"

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*,

To re-conſider the firſt enacting clauſe.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

After ſome debate,

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid clauſe?*"

It was determined in the negative.

A letter from *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, Comptroller-General, was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *February* 26, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux*,

To expunge that part of the minutes of yeſterday, which contains the order on the reading of the Comptroller-General's letter, *viz.* "*Ordered to lie on the table.*"

On the queſtion,— "*Shall the ſaid words,* "Ordered to lie on the table," *be expunged?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Gurney*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Francis Gurney*,
5 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
6 *Thomas Britton*,
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *Valentine Upp*,
9 *John Chapman*,

YEAS.

10 *James Bryan*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *Richard Downing*, jun.
13 *James Clemſon*,
14 *Henry Dering*,
15 *Jacob Erb*,
16 *John Miller*,
17 *Thomas Clingan*,
18 *Jacob Schmyſer*,

YEAS.

19 *John Stewart,*
20 *Thomas Lilley,*
21 *William Godfrey,*
22 *Peter Ealer,*
23 *Conrad Ibric,* jun.
24 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
25 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
26 *Jacob Reiff,*
27 *Jonathan Roberts,*
28 *Benjamin Markley,*
29 *James Vaux,*
30 *John Carſon,*
31 *James M'Creight,*
32 *David Stewart,*
33 *Hugh Lloyd,*
34 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *John Hopkins,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Joſeph Reed,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *John Moore,*
11 *Herman Huſband,*
12 *Samuel Maclay,*
13 *John White,*
14 *John Baird,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *James Marſhall,*
19 *John Gilchreeſt,*
20 *James Finley,*
21 *James Johnſton,*
22 *John Rhea,*
23 *Jacob Miley,*
24 *John Nevil,*
25 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, containing an account of certain tranſactions between the Regiſter-General and himſelf, in their official intercourſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from *James Biddle,* Eſquire, Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of *Philadelphia* county, was read, ſetting forth, that on the twentieth day of *March,* 1783, an act was paſſed, laying a duty of *five ſhillings and ſeven-pence* upon all original, judicial and meſne proceſs iſſuing out of the office of Prothonotary of the ſaid county; that ſince the paſſing of the ſaid law a conſiderable part of the ſaid county hath been erected into a ſeparate county, the juriſdicton of Juſtices of the Peace extended in matters of debt to the ſum of *ten pounds,* and original juriſdiction given to the Supreme Court in caſes above the value of *fifty pounds;* that from theſe, and other cauſes, the number of ſuits brought in the ſaid court hath vaſtly diminiſhed, and is ſtill decreaſing, and the profits of the ſaid office, while charged with the ſaid tax, no longer capable of yielding a ſupport adequate to the importance of it; therefore praying he may be relieved from the payment of the ſaid tax.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Eaſt-Conococheague,* read *February* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The committee appointed *November* 27th laſt, on the petition of *Samuel Delap,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Samuel Delap*, praying that the duty and all reſtrictions be taken off the ſale of books by auction, report——

That they have conſidered the ſubject, without being able to diſcover any good reaſon why this ſpecies of property ſhould be exempted from duty; and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Samuel Delap* ought not to be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 27th laſt, on the petition of *John Chaloner* and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *John Chaloner* and others, praying that a law may be enacted, to authoriſe ſuch additional number of perſons to hold auctions in the city of *Philadelphia*, and its liberties, as can give ſatisfactory ſecurity for the duties to the ſtate, after inveſtigating the ſubject, are of opinion that ſome alterations ought to take place in the exiſting laws; that lowering the duty upon ſales of wet goods, and ſuch as are generally called groceries, would render the revenue more productive; and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to licence an additional number of Auctioneers in the city of *Philadelphia*, and the neighbourhood thereof, under ſuch regulations and reſtrictions as this Aſſembly ſhall judge expedient, and to bring in a clauſe to reduce the preſent duty upon the ſales of all wet goods and groceries ſold at vendue.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 12th inſtant, on the repreſentation of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the repreſentation of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital report——

That although a general mode of compelling Executors to give notice of legacies and deviſes of a public or charitable nature would be conſiſtent with juſtice and ſound policy, yet the committee have been unable to deviſe any plan for the purpoſe, which would not be attended with inconveniencies: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital have leave to withdraw their repreſentation made to this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney*, read *February* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*" *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to appoint   ſuitable perſons to meet at the town of *Sunbury*, who, after due notice given to the claimants, ſhall proceed to examine all claims made for proviſions and ſupplies furniſhed the magiſtrates in their attempt to enforce the laws of *Pennſylvania* at *Wyoming*, in ſuch way, and under ſuch regulations, as Council ſhall direct and appoint; and the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall report their proceedings to Council for their approbation, and to be by them tranſmitted to the Comptroller-General for his examination; and empowering the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the payment of ſuch allowed claims, as alſo a reaſonable compenſation to the ſaid Commiſſioners.

It was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee of the whole on the ſubject of the amendments propoſed by Congreſs to the conſtitution of the United States, and that it be the order for that day.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable* "*the Officers of the Land-Office to iſſue warrants of re-location in the caſes* "*therein deſcribed*," was read the third time.

And the firſt enacting clauſe being under conſideration,

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hoge*,

To adjourn.

Adjourned, accordingly, until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *February* 27, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks* was read, ſetting forth, that the laws now in force for the preſervation of the fiſh, and facilitating the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*, are inadequate to anſwer the good purpoſes thereby intended, on account of the numerous dams which obſtruct the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Webb* was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1774 he mortgaged to the Truſtees of the then General Loan-Office a certain tract of land, ſituated in the county of *Northumberland*, to ſecure the payment of *one hundred and ninety-two pounds*; that by reaſon of the late *Indian* war, and other misfortunes, he is unable to diſcharge the ſaid mortgage, and the intereſt thereon accrued; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating, that he is poſſeſſed of a large number of certificates of depreciation, new-loan and funded debt, which have been redeemed by the ſales of lands, lots, &c. the property of the ſtate, and alſo of new-loan debt, which have been redeemed by exchanging for them the continental certificates; likewiſe a great number of each of the ſpecies aforeſaid, taken in for others granted for accommodation of individuals and change in the land-office; and ſuggeſting the propriety of paſſing an act, authoriſing the committee of accounts to count, burn and deſtroy the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Leonard Young*, read *February* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the grand committee on claims, to report thereon.

The petition of the truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 25th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, reſpecting a road to *Cataweſſy*, poſtponed *February* 20th inſtant.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report on the petition of *John Chaloner* and others, read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to licence an additional number of Auctioneers in the city of *Philadelphia*, and the neighbourhood thereof, under ſuch regulations and reſtrictions as this Aſſembly ſhall judge expedient, and to bring in a clauſe to reduce the preſent duty upon the ſales of all wet goods and groceries ſold at vendue.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation of* Eaſt-Conococheague, "*in the county of* Franklin," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The conſideration of the firſt enacting clauſe of the bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enable the Officers of the Land-Office to iſſue warrants of re-location* "*in the caſes therein deſcribed*," recurring; after ſome debate thereon,

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 1, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee on claims, to whom was referred, *February* 24th, the petition of *Robert Thorn*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on claims, to whom was referred the petition of *Robert Thorn*, report——

That they have examined his claim, and are ſatisfied that the ſervice was performed in the *Delaware* at thoſe places mentioned in his petition, and to the advantage of navigation, and are of opinion that the ſaid *Robert Thorn* ought to be paid the balance of his account, being *forty pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence*; and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Robert Thorn*, for the ſum of *forty pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence*, payable out of the *fifteen hundred pounds* appropriated for clearing the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *D. Stewart* be added to the committee, to whom was referred the petition of the truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, and the petition of the truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of *Philadelphia*.

The petition of *James Biddle*, Eſq; read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Webb*, read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Comptroller-General, read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee of the whole on the ſeveral articles propoſed by Congreſs as amendments to the conſtitution of the United States, read *February* 24th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Harris*,

To poſtpone the ſaid report, in order to take into conſideration the firſt Article of the ſaid propoſed amendments, *viz.*

" ART. I. After the firſt enumeration required by the firſt Article of the " conſtitution, there ſhall be one repreſentative for every thirty thouſand, " until the number ſhall amount to one hundred; after which the propor- " tion ſhall be ſo regulated by Congreſs, that there ſhall be not leſs than one " hundred repreſentatives, nor leſs than one repreſentative for every forty " thouſand perſons, until the number of repreſentatives ſhall amount to two " hundred; after which the proportion ſhall be ſo regulated by Congreſs, " that there ſhall not be leſs than two hundred repreſentatives, nor more " than one repreſentative for every fifty thouſand perſons."

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-" ſaid purpoſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Johnſton*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Francis Gurney*,
2 *Thomas Clingan*,
3 *Joſeph Reed*,
4 *John Stewart*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Jonathan Hoge*,
8 *John Ludwig*,
9 *Nicholas Lutz*,
10 *Anthony Lerch*,
11 *John Moore*,
12 *Samuel Maclay*,
13 *John White*,
14 *John Baird*,

YEAS.

15 *James Barr*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *James Marſhall*,
19 *John Gilchreeſt*,
20 *James Finley*,
21 *James Johnſton*,
22 *John Rhea*,
23 *Benjamin Markley*,
24 *Jacob Miley*,
25 *John Carſon*,
26 *James M'Creight*,
27 *John Harris*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,

NAYS.

3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Samuel Aſhmead*,

NAYS.

5 *Thomas Paul,*
6 *Thomas Britton,*
7 *Elias Boys,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *James Bryan,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *James Clemſon,*
15 *John Hopkins,*
16 *Henry Dering,*
17 *James Cunningham,*
18 *Jacob Erb,*

NAYS.

19 *John Miller,*
20 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
21 *Thomas Lilley,*
22 *William Godfrey,*
23 *Stephen Balliot,*
24 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
25 *Herman Huſband,*
26 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
27 *Jacob Reiff,*
28 *Jonathan Roberts,*
29 *James Vaux,*
30 *Obadiah Gore,*
31 *John Nevil,*
32 *Richard Riley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And the ſaid report recurring, the Houſe adopted the following reſolutions, contained in the ſame, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe do ratify the following articles, propoſed by the Congreſs of the United States as amendments to the conſtitution of the United States, *viz.*

ART. III. Congreſs ſhall make no law reſpecting an eſtabliſhment of religion, or prohibiting the free exerciſe thereof; or abridging the freedom of ſpeech, or of the preſs; or the right of the people peaceably to aſſemble, and to petition the government for a redreſs of grievances.

ART. IV. A well regulated militia being neceſſary to the ſecurity of a free ſtate, the right of the people to keep and bear arms ſhall not be infringed.

ART. V. No ſoldier ſhall in time of peace be quartered in any houſe without the conſent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be preſcribed by law.

ART. VI. The right of the people to be ſecure in their perſons, houſes, papers and effects, againſt unreaſonable ſearches and ſeizures, ſhall not be violated; and no warrants ſhall iſſue but upon probable cauſe, ſupported by oath or affirmation, and particularly deſcribing the place to be ſearched, and the perſons or things to be ſeized.

ART. VII. No perſon ſhall be held to anſwer for a capital, or otherwiſe infamous crime, unleſs on a preſentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in caſes ariſing in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual ſervice in time of war or public danger; nor ſhall any perſon be ſubject, for the ſame offence, to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor ſhall be compelled, in any criminal caſe, to be a witneſs againſt himſelf, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due proceſs of law; nor ſhall private property be taken for public uſe, without juſt compenſation.

ART. VIII. In all criminal proſecutions, the accuſed ſhall enjoy the right to a ſpeedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the ſtate and diſtrict wherein the crime ſhall have been committed, which diſtrict ſhall have been previouſly aſcertained by law; and to be informed of the nature and cauſe of the accuſation; to be confronted with the witneſſes againſt him; to have compulſory proceſs for obtaining witneſſes in his favour, and to have the aſſiſtance of counſel for his defence.

Art. IX. In ſuits at common law, where the value in controverſy ſhall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury ſhall be preſerved; and no fact, tried by a jury, ſhall be otherwiſe re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Art. X. Exceſſive bail ſhall not be required, nor exceſſive fines impoſed, nor cruel and unuſual puniſhments inflicted.

Art. XI. The enumeration in the conſtitution of certain rights ſhall not be conſtrued to deny or diſparage others retained by the people.

Art. XII. The powers not delegated to the United States by the conſtitution, nor prohibited by it to the ſtates, are reſerved to the ſtates reſpectively, or to the people.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes contained in the above reſolution.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to ſaid reſolutions.

The report on the petition of *John Churchman,* read *February* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, directing the Supreme Executive Council to ſubſcribe for ſets of *John Churchman*'s "Variation Charts or Maps of all the Northern Hemiſphere," (agreeably to the terms propoſed by him for the publication thereof) for the uſe of this ſtate, to be diſtributed as the Legiſlature may hereafter direct; to be paid for out of the fund particularly ſet apart by law for improvements.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Maclay* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *February* 27th, the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Berks* and *Northumberland,* beg leave to report——

That as a general plan of improving the roads and internal navigation of this ſtate has been for ſome time in agitation, and proper meaſures for obtaining the neceſſary information thereunto relating are now taking, by direction of the Legiſlature, it will be expedient to poſtpone the conſideration of any particular improvement, until they ſhall be found to be proper parts of the general ſyſtem.

The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners for a road to *Catawiſſy,* through *Berks* and *Northumberland,* have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the repreſentation of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital have leave to withdraw their repreſentation made to this Houſe.

The report on the petition of *Samuel Delap,* read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Samuel Delap* ought not to be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the northern boundary line of this ſtate being inſerted in *Reading Howell*'s map, read *February* 16th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a clauſe be inſerted in the bill now before the Houſe, entituled "*An Act in favour of* Reading Howell," authoriſing him, under the directions of Council, to delineate in his map the lines of this ſtate, as eſtabliſhed by law, or otherwiſe agreed on and aſcertained.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle,*

To re-conſider the reſolution adopted *February* 26th, on the report of the committee appointed on the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to re-conſider the ſaid reſo-" lution?*"

It was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid report be re-committed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal part of the additional ſupplement to " the acts for the regulation of the militia of this commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the payment of the claim of* Turnbull, " Marmie *and Company,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To re-conſider the enacting clauſe, for the purpoſe of poſtponing the conſideration of the ſaid bill.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to re-conſider, for the aforeſaid " purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 2, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Juſtices of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for the better " regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Cheſter *county,*" which was depending in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, may be taken into conſideration, and paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Murray* was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1774 he mortgaged his plantation, ſituated in the county of *Northumberland,* to the Truſtees of the then General Loan-Office, to ſecure the payment of *one hundred and eighty-four pounds,* with the intereſt thereon accruing, by yearly inſtalments, and ſtating that he hath paid part of the ſaid principal and intereſt, but by reaſon of his ſerving as Sub-Lieutenant for three years within the ſaid county, and receiving a certificate for thoſe ſervices for the ſum of *ten pounds ſixteen ſhillings and ſix-pence* only, he is rendered unable to diſcharge the principal and intereſt remaining unpaid on ſaid mortgage.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Birmingham* and *Thornbury,* in the county of *Delaware,* was read, praying the lines of the ſaid county may be extended up the *Brandywine* to *Painter*'s ford, or to the

Weſt-town line, and along the ſaid line to the *Edgemont* road; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Rhea,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Fannet,* in the county of *Franklin,* was read, ſtating their inability to pay the taxes aſſeſſed on them in the years 1781, 1782 and 1783, and praying they may be exonerated from the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the freeholders and other inhabitants of the townſhip of *Birmingham,* in the county of *Delaware,* was read, praying they may be re-annexed to *Cheſter* county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Nevil* and Mr. *Rhea,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hiltzheimer,*

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 13th laſt, to bring in a bill to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate relative to the Board of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia,* be diſcharged.

A motion was made by Mr. *Ryerſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall,* as follows, *viz.*

Whereas this Houſe did on the twenty-third day of *February* laſt paſs a reſolution, recommending it to the Supreme Executive Council to make application to the Preſident and Congreſs of the United States for a protection againſt the hoſtile incurſions of the *Indians* on the weſtern frontiers of this ſtate: And whereas the ſeaſon is now nearly arrived when the hoſtile attacks of the *Indians* uſually commence, and as it is probable that ſome time muſt neceſſarily elapſe, before any protection can be afforded to the ſaid frontiers by the United States: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be hereby directed to take ſuch meaſures for the ſafety of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate, as to them may ſeem proper, and to draw on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for ſuch ſum or ſums of money as may be neceſſary for the above purpoſe, provided the ſame ſhall not exceed *one hundred and fifty pounds*; to be paid out of the general revenues of the ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 12th laſt, on the petition of *Lewis Nicolas,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Lewis Nicolas,* keeper of the work-houſe of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* report——

That as the penal laws are now under conſideration of a committee of this Houſe, and as the prayer of the petition involves a ſubject which will neceſſarily fall under their deliberation, and as it may be in their power to afford relief, without occaſioning any additional expence to the city or county, therefore the following reſolution is ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of *Lewis Nicolas,* keeper of the work-houſe of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* be referred to the committee on the penal laws, to act thereon as they may think proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *Robert Thorn,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Robert Thorn,* for the ſum of *forty pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence,* to be paid out of the *five thouſand pounds* ſpecially appropriated by law for the payment of claims, as ſoon as that fund ſhall be ſufficiently productive.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Mitchell* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act declaring the aſſent of this State to certain amendments to the conſtitution* "*of the United States,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Additional Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions* "*and auctioneers,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for ſettling the accounts of* James Rowan, "*late collector of taxes in the county of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act re-*"*lating to the ſecurities to be given by Sheriffs and Coroners;*" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 3, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating certain official tranſactions between him and the Regiſter-General.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 238 freeholders and taxable inhabitants of the townſhips of *Mount-Pleaſant* and *Berwick,* in the county of *York,* were read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county, and praying, that if this Houſe ſhould deem it expedient to erect a part thereof into a ſeparate county, they may be continued and remain within the lines of the county of *York* aforeſaid; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Erb,* Mr. *Ludwig,* Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Riley,* to report thereon.

A petition from 77 inhabitants of *Germany* townſhip, in the county of *York,* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of the ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Murray,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Vaux,* to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Ludwig,* Mr. *Dering,* Mr. *Balliot,* Mr. *Maclay,* Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 20th, on the petition of the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of *Roman Catholics* of the *Holy Trinity* church, in the city of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the corporation of the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of *Roman Catholics* of the *Holy Trinity* church, in the city of *Philadelphia,* beg leave to report——

That it appears to your committee, that the ſaid corporation has inſtituted a free ſchool for the tuition of the poor children belonging to the ſaid ſociety; that their funds at this time are inſufficient to make the inſtitution generally uſeful, and it is reaſonable that like aid ſhould be afforded them as hath been granted to ſimilar inſtitutions: Therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the corporation of the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of *Roman Catholics* of the *Holy Trinity* church, in the city of *Philadelphia,* have leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law, veſting in the ſaid corporation   acres of land, out of the ſixty thouſand acres ſet apart by the act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventh day of *April,* 1786.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 22d, on the petition of *Martha Flower,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *Martha Flower,* widow of Colonel *Benjamin Flower,* report——

That it appears the late Colonel *Benjamin Flower* held a commiſſion as Colonel, commanding a corps of artillery and artificers in the ſervice of the United States, from the ſixteenth day of *July,* 1776, to the time of his death, in the year 1781; that by a reſolution of Congreſs of the eleventh day of *February,* 1778, his corps was expreſsly declared to be entitled to all the benefits allowed to the corps of artillery in the ſame ſervice; that the Act of Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of *March,* 1780, grounded upon the reſolution of Congreſs of the fifteenth day of *May,* 1778, extending the benefits contained in that reſolution to the widows of ſuch officers as came within the meaning of that reſolve, appears to your committee to be a recognition of thoſe principles, upon which the prayer of the petitioner is founded: The committee therefore apprehend that the claim of Mrs. *Flower* is equally entitled to the bounty of Congreſs, through the intervention of this ſtate, in the manner adopted in ſo many other caſes, and ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of extending to *Martha Flower,* widow of Colonel *Benjamin Flower,* the ſame relief, as in and by an act, entituled "*An Act* "*for the more effectual ſupply and honorable reward of the* Pennſylvania *troops,* "*in the ſervice of the United States of* America," is extended to the widows of military officers therein mentioned.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 19th, on the petition of *Peter Heiſler*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of claims, to whom was referred the petition of *Peter Heiſler*, beg leave to report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of ſaid petition, and find that the militia fines are the fund for the payment of ſuch claims, and that any further interference of the Houſe at this time would be improper; and offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Peter Heiſler* ought not to be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Lewis Nicolas*, read *March* 2d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petition of *Lewis Nicolas*, keeper of the work-houſe of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, be referred to the committee on the penal laws, to act thereon as they may think proper.

The committee appointed *February* 27th, on the petition of *Leonard Young*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Leonard Young*, report——

That they have examined the ſubject matter of ſaid petition, and find that his claim is properly againſt the United States, and that it would be improper for this ſtate to aſſume the payment, and that he ought to apply to Congreſs for relief; and offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of *Leonard Young*, as ſet forth in his petition, ought not to be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made by Mr. *Cunningham*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan*, *December* 2d laſt, reſpecting the ſale of the barracks in the borough of *Lancaſter*.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Gurney*, ſeconded by Mr. *Dering*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid motion, in order to introduce the following as a ſubſtitute, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners to ſell the public lot or lots, together with the barracks erected thereon, in the borough of *Lancaſter*, at public auction, and to appropriate ſo much of the monies ariſing therefrom, as may be neceſſary to put a new roof upon the powder magazine in ſaid borough; the balance, or remainder, of the monies to be paid into the ſtate treaſury, and applied to the uſe of the commonwealth.

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the ſaid reſolution lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was committed, *February* 22d, the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Carpenters Company of the city and county of* Philadelphia," reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate* "*the*

"*the Carpenters Company of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in favour of* Reading Howell, *and for other* "*purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, ſo much of the* "*act of Aſſembly to regulate the fiſhery in the rivers* Codorus *and* Cone- "wago, *as relates to the erecting of platforms to the dams therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to repeal part of the additional ſupplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of this commonwealth.*

An ACT *directing the payment of the accounts of ſundry Deputy Surveyors of the depreciation lands.*

An ACT *to compenſate* William Lyon, *Eſquire.*

An ACT *to reimburſe* Gabriel Coxe, George Vallendigham *and* Andrew Sweringen, *for monies advanced by them in defence of the frontiers of* Waſhington *county.*

An ACT *to divide the county of* Fayette *into election diſtricts.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 4, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, Comptroller-General, was read, relative to certain official tranſactions between him and the Regiſter-General; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with his letters read *February* 26th, and *March* 3d, be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr *Ryerſon,* to report thereon.

A letter from the Regiſter-General was read, ſtating certain official tranſactions between him and the Comptroller-General; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from the Grand Inqueſt for the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying that the bill publiſhed by order of the late General Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Cheſter "*county,*" may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, remonſtrating againſt the exciſe laws now in force within this commonwealth, and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Fannet* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin*, read *March* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Rhea* and Mr. *Barr*, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *March* 1ſt, the report on the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the report on the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others, report——

That your committee are of opinion, that as the Magiſtrates of the county of *Northumberland* were acting under the authority and by direction of government, thoſe perſons who furniſhed them with the neceſſary ſupplies on that occaſion are entitled to a reaſonable compenſation for the ſame, but from the length of time that has elapſed ſince this buſineſs was tranſacted, and from the form in which the claimants have brought forward their accounts, your committee are unable to determine on the propriety of admitting them; but in order that juſtice may be done to thoſe who furniſhed neceſſary ſupplies, and to prevent the ſtate from being charged with any unjuſt or unneceſſary expence, they ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, empowering and requiring the Comptroller-General to ſettle and adjuſt the claims of thoſe perſons who furniſhed neceſſary ſupplies to the Magiſtrates of *Northumberland* county in 1775, and to empower the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw orders in favor of thoſe perſons, whoſe claims are admitted by the Comptroller-General to be juſt and equitable.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *John Lytle*, *John Webb* and *William Murray*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the report on the petition of *John Lytle*, and to whom were committed the petitions of *John Webb* and *William Murray*, report——

That they have conſidered the ſubject matter contained in the ſeveral petitions, and are of opinion that the circumſtances of the petitioners render the interpoſition of the General Aſſembly neceſſary; that ſhould the State's Attorney proceed againſt thoſe perſons, and ſell their farms in their preſent ruinous condition, the county would thereby be ſaddled with a conſiderable expence, as each county is obliged to make good all deficiencies that may happen therein; thus the county would be brought into difficulty, and the petitioners, with their families, ſtripped of the only property that has eſcaped the ravages of an *Indian* war: Theſe conſiderations induce the committee to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to order the Attorney-General to ſtay any further proceedings againſt the petitioners, *John Lytle*, *John Webb* and *William Murray*, for   years.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, read *March* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners for a road to *Catawеſſy,* through *Berks* and *Northumberland,* have leave to withdraw their petitions.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *February* 12th, the bill, entituled " *An Act to authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive Council to ap-" point commiſſioners, to audit and ſettle the accounts between* Bedford *and* Hun-" tingdon *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" reported ſaid bill, with ſundry alterations and amendments.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act for the more effectual relief of the widows and children of the officers and " privates of the militia, who have loſt their lives in the ſervice of their coun-" try,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act to provide for the ſafety of the records of the ſeveral counties in this com-" monwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Con-" gregation belonging to St.* David's *(commonly called* Radnor) *Church, in the " county of* Delaware," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration..

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter the place of holding elections in the " ſecond diſtrict of* Waſhington *county,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The motion made by Mr. *Ryerſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall, March* 2d, reſpecting the defence of the ſouth-weſt frontier of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 5, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *William Tillyer* was read, ſetting forth, that he became ſecurity for a certain *John Loughborrow* for the payment of *one hundred and thirty-three pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence*; that afterwards the ſaid *Loughborrow* was attainted of High Treaſon, and his eſtate confiſcated and ſold for the uſe of the commonwealth, ſince which the ſaid debt hath been recovered from the petitioner by due courſe of law; and in as much as the ſaid eſtate hath been ſold for more than the claims exhibited againſt it, he prays the Houſe to direct payment thereof, together with the intereſt thereon accrued, to the creditors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred, *November* 25th and *March* 3d, the petitions for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *York,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York*, for and againſt a diviſion of ſaid county, report——

That however proper a diviſion of *York* county may be at ſome future day, at preſent it does not appear that the people have made up their minds upon the ſubject, ſo as to be reconciled to the plan; the preſent propoſed line will include a very reſpectable number of inhabitants, who are by no means reconciled to the meaſure, but, on the contrary, pray they may not be ſeparated from the old county. It is a well known fact, that the adoption of haſty and indigeſted plans for the diviſion of counties have cauſed great uneaſineſs to the people, and conſumed much of the time of the General Aſſembly. Theſe circumſtances have induced your committee to be of opinion, that whenever application is made to this Houſe for leave to divide a county, that ſuch application ought to be accompanied with a draft of the lines, place for the ſeat of juſtice, and proofs of approbation from the people generally, and particularly thoſe near and within the line of the new county: As this does not appear to be the caſe in the preſent inſtance, the committee are induced to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *York* county, in favour of the diviſion of ſaid county, ought not to be granted, and that they have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 27th, on the letter from the Comptroller-General, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the Comptroller-General's letter of the 27th of *February*, 1790, ſuggeſting the propriety of cancelling and deſtroying all certificates which have been redeemed by the ſales of lands, lots, *&c.* the property of the ſtate, and alſo new-loan debt, which have been redeemed by exchanging for them the continental certificates, report——

That in their opinion it would be very improper to deſtroy any part of theſe certificates, which may not only be found uſeful as evidence of debt, but may lead to the detection of frauds. It appears extremely proper that the certificates alluded to, as well as all others which ſhall hereafter be redeemed as aforeſaid, ſhould be cancelled, in a way that will effectually prevent impoſition, yet preſerve them ſo entire, that reference to them for the purpoſes aforeſaid may at all times be had. The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, directing the Comptroller-General to cancel all the ſtate certificates which have been redeemed by the ſtate lands, or otherwiſe, by preparing a punch that ſhall cut each certificate in the middle, in the form of a croſs, without taking part of the certificate out; and that the Comptroller-General be directed to deliver the ſaid certificates, ſo cancelled, to the Regiſter-General, who ſhall be required to receive the ſame, and prepare books of coarſe paper, for the purpoſe of paſting the ſaid certificates in numerical order; that is, each certificate oppoſite to its proper number, leaving as much thereof free, as will diſcover the indorſement of intereſt paid thereon, in order that reference may be had to ſaid certificates when occaſion may require.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 12th, on the petition of *Francis White*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Francis White*, report——

That in their opinion it would be contrary to every principle of ſound policy, for the legiſlature to interfere in caſes where the exiſting laws would afford ſufficient relief to the perſon applying, if he really was a meritorious object: This being the caſe of *Francis White*, the following reſolution is ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Francis White* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *John Lytle*, *John Webb* and *William Murray*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, empowering the Supreme Executive Council to order the Attorney-General to ſtay any further proceedings againſt the petitioners, *John Lytle*, *John Webb* and *William Murray*, for   years.

Ordered, That Mr. *Britton*, Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Vaux* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of *Leonard Young*, read *March* 3d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of *Leonard Young*, as ſet forth in his petition, ought not to be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Weſtmoreland* county, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Harris*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Laughlin M'Cartney* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, empowering and requiring the Comptroller-General to ſettle and adjuſt the claims of thoſe perſons, who furniſhed neceſſary ſupplies to the Magiſtrates of *Northumberland* county in 1775, in their attempt to enforce the execution of the laws at *Wyoming*, and to empower the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council to draw orders in favour of thoſe perſons, whoſe claims are admitted by the Comptroller-General to be juſt and equitable.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Maclay* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The motion made by Mr. *Gurney*, ſeconded by Mr. *Dering*, *March* 3d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners to ſell the public lot or lots, together with the barracks erected thereon, in the borough of *Lancaſter*, at public auction, and to appropriate ſo much of the monies ariſing therefrom, as may be neceſſary to put a new roof upon the powder magazine in ſaid borough; the balance, or remainder, of the monies to be paid into the ſtate treaſury, and applied to the uſe of the commonwealth.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Dering* and Mr. *Miley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation* "*of* East-Conococheague, *in the county of* Franklin," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*further Supplement to the act of Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act for the relief "of inſolvent debtors within the province of *Pennſylvania,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act declaring the aſſent of this State to certain* "*amendments to the conſtitution of the United States,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame; *viz.*

An ACT *relating to the ſecurities to be given by Sheriffs and Coroners.*

An ACT *to ſuſpend, for a limited time, ſo much of the act of Aſſembly to regulate the fiſhery in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, *in* York *county, as relates to the erecting of platforms to the dams therein mentioned.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 6, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a majority of the corporation for the relief of the widows and children of Clergymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church in the United States of *America* was read, ſetting forth, that the good and charitable purpoſes for which the ſaid corporation was inſtituted are in danger of being defeated, and the funds annihilated, by reaſon of a clauſe in their charter, which requires a majority of the whole members for the time being at any annual or other meeting, in order to the making, altering or amending any fundamental law or regulation; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of altering and amending their ſaid charter; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from 108 freeholders and taxable inhabitants of *Reading* townſhip, in the county of *York,* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of *Peter Heiſler,* read *March* 3d, was read the ſecond time, and the following reſolution, reported by the committee, being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Peter Heiſler* ought not to be granted, and that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

A motion was made by Mr. *Balliot,* ſeconded by Mr. *Marſhall,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer be, and he is hereby authoriſed and directed to pay unto *Peter Heiſler* the amount of the order drawn in his favour by the Preſident in Council, out of the monies ariſing from the funding tax in the city of *Philadelphia*, and that a like ſum be refunded out of the firſt money ariſing from the militia fines.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the pur-" poſe aforeſaid?*"

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Balliot*,

To re-commit the ſaid report.

Which was carried in the negative, and the reſolution, as reported by the committee, recurring, the ſame was adopted.

The report on the letter from the Comptroller-General, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, directing the Comptroller-General to cancel all the ſtate certificates which have been redeemed by the ſtate lands, or otherwiſe, by preparing a punch that ſhall cut each certificate in the middle, in the form of a croſs, without taking part of the certificate out; and that the Comptroller-General be directed to deliver the ſaid certificates, ſo cancelled, to the Regiſter-General, who ſhall be required to receive the ſame, and prepare books of coarſe paper for the purpoſe of paſting the ſaid certificates in numerical order; that is, each certificate oppoſite to its proper number, leaving as much thereof free, as will diſcover the indorſement of intereſt paid thereon, in order that reference may be had to ſaid certificates when occaſion may require.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration the preſent ſtate of the funds ariſing from militia fines in the ſeveral counties in this ſtate, and to confer with the Supreme Executive Council relative to the manner in which the act, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Ap-" peal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in " caſes of militia fines*," has been carried into execution.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Johnſton* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Ryerſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle*,

Reſolved, That the reſolution which paſſed this Aſſembly on the 23d day of *February* laſt, on the ſubject of a defence for the weſtern frontiers of this ſtate, be, and the ſame is hereby reſcinded.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the more effectual relief of the " widows and children of the officers and privates of the militia, who have loſt " their lives in the ſervice of their country*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the ſafety of the records of the " ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein men-" tioned*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for ſettling the accounts of* James Rowan, "*late Collector of taxes in the county of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, March 8, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, praying they may be exonerated from the payment of militia fines.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* was read, ſetting forth, that they have ſubſcribed a ſum of money for promoting the manufacture of cotton within the ſaid county, and praying the aid of the Legiſlature in the proſecution of their deſign, by directing the State Treaſurer to ſubſcribe for twenty ſhares, on account of the commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the borough of *Cheſter* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of enabling them to regulate the internal police of the ſaid borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of the inhabitants of *Waſhington, Turbutt* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Northumberland,* read *February* 24th laſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

On motion of Mr. *Balliot,* ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer,*

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that Mr. *Clemſon* and Mr. *Clingan* be added to the committee.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* John Lytle, John Webb *and* William Murray," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*for further enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* "An Act for "facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one "thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the "funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands "which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for "the lands by them occupied," and having conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Additional Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſ*-"*ſembly reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Carpenters Company of* "Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter the place of holding elections in the* "*ſecond diſtrict of* Waſhington *county*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 9, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Thornbury* and *Birmingham*, in the county of *Delaware*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred, *November* 25th and *March* 2d, the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Thornbury* and *Birmingham* townſhips, in the county of *Delaware*, report——

That they have taken the ſubject matter of ſaid petitions into their ſerious conſideration, and are of opinion, that although it would contribute more to the eaſe and convenience of the petitioners if they were re-annexed to *Cheſter* county, yet, in as much as it would conſiderably diminiſh the county of *Delaware*, which is at preſent very ſmall, when compared with the county of *Cheſter*, and it is ſcarcely to be expected that any diviſion that could take place would be likely to ſuit the local circumſtances of all: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners from the townſhips of *Thornbury* and *Birmingham*, in the county of *Delaware*, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 5th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of *Weſtmoreland* county, report——

That the exciſe raiſed upon ſpirituous liquors being appropriated for the diſcharge of the intereſt due on the depreciation of pay of our late army, and as no other fund has yet been aſſigned for the aforeſaid purpoſe, it would be altogether improper to take away or leſſen it, until ſaid debt is aſſumed by the United States. The hint given reſpecting the exciſe officer is of too much importance to be neglected, and, with others of a ſimilar nature, appears to require the immediate attention of the Executive: Impreſſed with theſe ideas, the committee are induced to ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petition of the inhabitants of *Weſtmoreland* county be tranſmitted to the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, for their information, who are particularly requeſted to take the moſt effectual means in their power to compel all delinquent exciſe officers to pay into the State Treaſury all monies due for exciſe, whether in the hands of ſaid officers, or of individuals.

The committee appointed *March* 1ſt, on the memorial and petition of *James Biddle*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial and petition of *James Biddle*, Eſquire, report——

That in their opinion the tax impoſed by the act of Aſſembly, paſſed in the year 1783, upon the original and judicial proceſs iſſued out of the office of the Prothonotary of the county Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia*, has, from a variety of circumſtances, not only become leſs productive than it was expected to have been, but alſo to a certain degree oppreſſive upon the officer ſubjected to it. The diviſion of *Philadelphia* county, and the veſting original juriſdiction within the remaining part of that county in the Supreme Court, with other cauſes, have reduced the profits of that officer far below a competent proviſion for the difficult and profeſſional duties of the office: The committee ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of the act, entituled " *An Act for raiſing and collecting of money on the* " *ſpecified articles therein mentioned for the ſupport of government, and for* " *other purpoſes therein mentioned*," paſſed the twenty-firſt day of *March*, 1783, as lays a tax of *five ſhillings* and *ſeven-pence* upon original proceſs iſſuing out of the county Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for altering a certain clauſe in the charter of the corporation for the* " *relief of the widows and children of Clergymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal* " *Church in the United States of* America," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for compenſating* Laughlin M'Cartney, *and others therein mentioned,* " *for ſupplies by them furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county in* " *the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Downing*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Wright*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Tillyer*, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Paul* and Mr. *Hoge*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Cheſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The report on the petition of *Martha Flower*, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolu-* " *tion?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of extending to *Martha Flower,* widow of Colonel *Benjamin Flower,* the ſame relief as in and by an act, entituled "*An Act for the more effectual ſupply and honorable reward of the* Pennſylvania *troops, in the ſervice of the United States of* America," is extended to the widows of military officers therein mentioned.

It was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for "erecting the ſouth-weſt part of the county of *Cumberland* into a new county," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to "authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive Council to appoint Commiſſioners "to audit and ſettle the accounts between* Bedford *and* Huntingdon *counties, "and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" as reported by the committee *March* 4th; and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act concerning ſtray horſes, cattle and ſheep, and "to prevent ſtone-horſes running at large; alſo to repeal an act, entituled* "An "Act to improve the breed of horſes, and to regulate Rangers," was read the third time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act declaring the aſſent of this State to certain "amendments to the conſtitution of the United States,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to compel the Collectors of exciſe duties, and other revenues due to this ſtate, to give adequate ſecurity for the performance of their reſpective truſts.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 10, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 357 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, praying part of the ſaid county may be erected into a ſeparate county, and the ſeat of juſtice fixed at the town of *Lebanon;* and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Dering,* Mr. *Schmyſer,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *White* and Mr. *Riley,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Beaver-dam* townſhip, in the county of *Northumberland,* was read, praying they may be annexed to *Mifflin* county, and that the line or lines may be run ſo as to croſs *Middle-*

Creek valley four miles, or at leaſt one mile, below the *Beaver-dams*, in ſaid valley; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Ealer*, Mr. *Vaux*, Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Harris*, to report thereon.

A letter from three of the Truſtees appointed by the act, entituled "*An* "*Act for erecting certain parts of* Cumberland *and* Northumberland *counties* "*into a ſeparate county*," to fix upon and eſtabliſh the place for holding the courts of juſtice within the county of *Mifflin*, was read, ſetting forth, that ſome of the Commiſſioners appointed as aforeſaid have neglected to perform the duties enjoined them, and ſuggeſting the propriety of appointing at leaſt one Truſtee in addition to thoſe already appointed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Cunningham*, Mr. *Carſon*, Mr. *Harris* and Mr. *Lloyd*, to report thereon.

A petition from *William Mackey* was read, ſtating, that in the year 1775 he furniſhed certain ſupplies to the Juſtices of the county of *Northumberland*, for the purpoſe of enforcing a due execution of the laws of *Pennſylvania* at *Wyoming*, and praying payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, read *March* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Upp*, Mr. *Huſband* and Mr. *Rhea*, to report thereon.

The petitions of the Juſtices of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Cheſter*, and of the Grand Inqueſt for the ſaid county, read *March* 2d and 4th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed: Whereupon

Mr. *Thomas*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for the better* "*regulation and ſupport of the poor of* Cheſter *county*," and, leave having been obtained for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act of Aſſembly, enti-* "*tuled* "An Act for the relief of inſolvent debtors within the province "of *Pennſylvania*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Nathaniel Hurſt* and others, poſtponed *February* 20th, and the following reſolution being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to give further time to *Nathaniel Hurſt* and the other petitioners, for the purpoſe of regiſtering of ſuch Negroe and Mulatto children as they are poſſeſſed of, who have been born ſince the firſt day of *March*, 1780.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to ſubſtitute the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Whereas by the act, entituled "*An Act for the gradual abolition of ſla-* "*very*," paſſed the firſt day of *March*, 1780, and by the ſupplement thereto, to, paſſed the twenty-ninth day of *March*, 1788, and the other exiſting laws of this ſtate, the Overſeers of the Poor of the reſpective townſhips are inveſted with powers of binding out Negroe children, who have acquired their freedom, to the age of twenty-one years, or who, if ſlaves, have been abandoned by their owners, to the age of twenty-eight years: And whereas this Houſe has no power to recall the right of freedom, when, from a non-compliance with the law, or other cauſes, it is once veſted: Therefore

Reſolved, That *Nathaniel Hurſt*, and the other inhabitants of *Weſtmoreland* county, praying further time to regiſter their infant Negroes, have leave to withdraw their petition.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement ?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Boys*, ſeconded by Mr. *Finley*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the motion made by Mr. *Rawle*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*.

Which was carried in the negative: Whereupon

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſubſtitute moved by Mr.* " Rawle, *and ſeconded by Mr.* Gurney?"

It was carried in the affirmative.

The report on the petition of the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of *Roman Catholics* of the *Holy Trinity* church, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 3d, was read the ſecond time.

And the following reſolution being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the corporation of the Paſtor and Truſtees of the *German* religious ſociety of *Roman Catholics* in the city of *Philadelphia* have leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law, veſting in the ſaid corporation   acres of land, out of any of the unappropriated lands of the ſtate; and that the ſaid corporation inſert a clauſe in the bill, obliging them to ſettle the lands therein granted within three years from the enacting thereof.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Balliot*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *William Rawle*,
3 *Francis Gurney*,
4 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
5 *Elias Boys*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *John M'Dowell*,
8 *Henry Dering*,
9 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
10 *Thomas Lilley*,
11 *William Godfrey*,

YEAS.

12 *John Ludwig*,
13 *Nicholas Lutz*,
14 *Daniel Leinbach*,
15 *Peter Ealer*,
16 *Stephen Balliot*,
17 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
18 *Samuel Maclay*,
19 *James Marſhall*,
20 *Jacob Miley*,
21 *John Carſon*,
22 *Obadiah Gore*.

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Britton*,
2 *John Chapman*,
3 *James Bryan*,
4 *Richard Thomas*,

NAYS.

5 *Richard Downing*, jun.
6 *James Clemſon*,
7 *John Hopkins*,
8 *Jacob Erb*,

NAYS.

9 *John Miller,*
10 *Joſeph Reed,*
11 *John Stewart,*
12 *Thomas Kennedy,*
13 *David Mitchell,*
14 *Jonathan Hoge,*
15 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
16 *John Moore,*
17 *Herman Huſband,*
18 *John White,*
19 *John Baird,*
20 *James Barr,*
21 *Alexander Wright,*
22 *Thomas Ryerſon,*

NAYS.

23 *John Gilchreeſt,*
24 *James Finley,*
25 *James Johnſton,*
26 *John Rhea,*
27 *Jacob Reiff,*
28 *Jonathan Roberts,*
29 *Benjamin Markley,*
30 *James Vaux,*
31 *David Stewart,*
32 *John Nevil,*
33 *John Harris,*
34 *Hugh Lloyd,*
35 *Richard Riley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the more effectual relief of the "widows and children of the officers and privates of the militia, who have loſt "their lives in the ſervice of their country,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act declaring the aſſent of this State to certain "amendments to the conſtitution of the United States,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Boys,*

Reſolved, That an exemplification of the act, entituled "*An Act declaring "the aſſent of this ſtate to certain amendments to the conſtitution of the United "States,*" under the ſeal of this ſtate, and ſigned by the Speaker of this Houſe, be tranſmitted to the Congreſs of the United States.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 11, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An "Act appropriating a ſum of money for building and finiſhing a court-houſe "and priſon for the county of* Dauphin," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An "Act to authoriſe the ſale of the barracks in the borough of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Fannet* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Fannet* townſhip, in *Franklin* county, report——

That it appears to your committee that the petitioners are in ſimilar ſituation with numbers of the citizens of *Pennſylvania*, who have the ſame right to pray for an exoneration, and your committee think it would be impolitic at this time to grant exonerations, when the treaſury of the ſtate is empty: Therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Mackey*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Maclay*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* John Lytle, John Webb "*and* William Murray," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The committee, to whom were referred the ſeveral letters from the Regiſter-General and Comptroller-General, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from the Regiſter-General, dated the 16th of *February*, with the three letters from the Comptroller-General of the 16th and 20th of *February* and 4th of *March*, beg leave to report——

That in the proſecution of their duty, they have had ſeveral conferences with the Regiſter-General and Comptroller-General, and have conſidered with attention the act of Aſſembly paſſed the 30th *September*, 1789, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for the appointment " of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of regiſtering the accounts of this " commonwealth."

The different offices of making, of conſtruing, and of executing the laws, being conſtitutionally and wiſely veſted in different departments, the legiſlature cannot well be juſtified in exceeding its proper limits, unleſs it ſhould appear that its mandatory acts were ſo ambiguous or obſcure as to render it impoſſible to carry them into execution, in which caſe only explanatory or amending laws become neceſſary.

The plain and obvious intention, as well of the act already mentioned, as of that to which it is a ſupplement, was to provide more effectually for the intereſts of the commonwealth, by ſubjecting the proceedings of an officer, in whoſe hands extraordinary and unuſual powers have from time to time been veſted, to regular reviſion and adequate controul.

For theſe purpoſes the office of Regiſter-General was inſtituted, and the relative duties of the Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General were defined, in terms of ſuch accuracy and preciſion, as to leave the committee at a loſs to diſcover in the law the difficulties which have ſince impeded its operation.

If the accounts only, as ſtated by the Comptroller-General, without the evidence upon which they are founded, are to be ſubmitted to the Regiſter-General, it is evident, that, inſtead of ſerving to detect error or fraud, it would contribute to conceal both, the ſanction derived from the ſignature of the Regiſter-General would preclude farther enquiry, and the ſtate would be more liable to loſs or impoſition, as it had taken more pains to guard againſt them. Upon the ſame principles the Regiſter-General would ceaſe to be anſwerable for his conduct. Confined to the duty of tranſcribing an account, and examining its calculations, he would be little more than a public clerk, and without materials to enable him to judge if it was right, he would be reſponſible to no one if it was found by others to be wrong.

Hence the neceſſity of ſubmitting, with the accounts of certificates exchanged, which the latter officer is directed to regiſter, the certificates themſelves appears to the committee too obvious to require farther illuſtration.

Conceiving, therefore, that no legiſlative interference is neceſſary in the preſent inſtance, that it is the office of the Supreme Executive Council to enforce, and the duty of the officers of the ſtate to obey the laws, the committee ſubmit to the Houſe the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to take care that the act, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An " Act for the appointment of a Regiſter-General, for the purpoſe of re- " giſtering the accounts of this commonwealth," be faithfully executed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the memorial and petition of *James Biddle,* Eſquire, read *March* 9th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Boys,* ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay,*

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the ſafety of the records of the* " *ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein men-* " *tioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 12, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Rector, Church-wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St. *James,* in the borough of *Briſtol,* and county of *Bucks,* was read, praying the congregation may be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from *Frederick Dorſch* was read, ſetting forth, that he was entruſted by a certain *John Kepple* with a certificate of the new-loan of this commonwealth, iſſued in the name of *George Ilgner,* for the purpoſe of receiving the intereſt due thereon from the ſtate treaſury; that by ſome unforeſeen accident the ſame, with other papers, was conſumed by fire; and praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to iſſue a new certificate in lieu of the one which has been ſo deſtroyed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Cook* was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1775, when Sheriff of the county of *Northumberland,* he was commanded by the Magiſtrates of the ſaid county to take into cuſtody and convey, under a proper guard, to the gaol of the county of *Philadelphia,* the leaders of certain *Connecticut Claimants,* who had attempted to extend their ſettlements to *Freeland's* mills, near the weſt branch of the river *Suſquehanna,* which ſervice he performed, and received no compenſation therefor; and praying this Houſe to direct payment to be made him for the ſervices rendered as aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, late Treaſurer of the ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he has prepared the following ſums of paper money for burning, *one thouſand one hundred and fifty-four pounds* of the laſt emiſſion; three thouſand dollars of *June* 1780, received in the Loan-Office; two thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-ſeven dollars of Treaſury notes, which have never been iſſued, but ought to be burnt; *five thouſand three hundred and twenty-three pounds* of reſolve and commonwealth money; and a few bills of iſland money; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid letter was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That ſaid letter be referred to the committee of accounts, and that they be and hereby are authoriſed and directed to count, burn and deſtroy the ſeveral ſums of money ſpecified in the ſaid letter.

The committee appointed *November* 6th laſt, on the petition of *Eleazer Oſwald,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *Eleazer Oſwald,* repreſenting that he is guardian to *Jane Jones, Blathwaite Jones, Mary Jones* and *Gibbs Jones,* minors; that ſaid minors, as heirs at law to their grand-mother *Jane Jones,* deceaſed, are entitled to one undivided ſixth part of a meſſuage and lot of ground in the city of *Philadelphia;* that by reaſon of the non-age of ſaid minors, the ſaid one ſixth part of ſaid lot cannot be ſold, and in its preſent ſtate affords no ſubſiſtence for ſaid minors, who have no means of ſupport; and praying, in behalf of ſaid minors, for a bill to be paſſed, authoriſing him to ſell and diſpoſe of the ſame for the benefit of the ſaid minors, are of opinon that the prayer of the petitioner, in behalf of ſaid minors, is reaſonable and juſt, and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* to ſell and diſpoſe of one ſixth part of ſaid lot of ground, for the ſupport and maintenance of ſaid minors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act in favour of* Robert Thorn," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to provide for the election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs* " *of the United States,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 19th laſt, to enquire and report the reaſons why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to enquire why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, beg leave to report——

That it appeared to the committee, that the delay in the exhibition of the public accounts, agreeably to law, at the commencement of the laſt ſeſſion of the Houſe, proceeded partly from the numerous and difficult burthens which the legiſlature has, from time to time, impoſed upon the office of the Comptroller-General, beyond his ability to execute, and partly from a want of regularity and arrangement in the tranſaction of his buſineſs.

The perpetual accumulation of duty upon duty, and power upon power, which has accompanied this office ever ſince its inſtitution, has encreaſed it to a magnitude, of which the public ſeem ſcarcely aware, at the expence of that order, ſimplicity and œconomy, particularly neceſſary in the management of the revenues of a republic.

To enumerate the titles only of the different acts of Aſſembly which have inveſted this officer with new powers, or enlarged thoſe he poſſeſſed before, would conſume more time than could be juſtified by propriety. It will be ſufficient to remark, that beſides the numerous and various demands brought by individuals againſt the ſtate, including as well thoſe proceeding from the incidents of the late war which ſtill remain unſettled, as thoſe which are repeatedly occurring in the daily tranſactions of the ſtate, this officer is required by law to ſettle, at ſtated periods, the accounts of the perſons employed in collecting almoſt every ſpecies of public revenue, and until he ſhall find leiſure to effect ſuch ſettlement, even the powers of the Supreme Executive Council are reſtrained.

Upon the ſame officer is devolved the laborious employment of effecting the exchange of continental and new loan certificates, with which are neceſſarily connected the receipt and payment of indents.

The more arduous and important taſk of preparing and ſtating the account between this ſtate and the United States, in which the intereſt of *Pennſylvania* is ſo deeply involved, is alſo committed to his charge. An object of this magnitude would have juſtified the appointment of a commiſſioner, for the excluſive purpoſes of ſettling the individual accounts, upon which this muſt depend, and afterwards of bringing forward the general accounts, in ſuch a manner as would be moſt likely to do juſtice to the ſtate.

In another inſtance the legiſlature appears to have been equally profuſe of its confidence, though the committee cannot diſcover the connection it has with the nature of the office.

All the certificates received in payment at the Land-Office are directed to be delivered to the Comptroller-General, who, altho' thus poſſeſſed of the treaſure of the ſtate to a great amount, gives no ſecurity for the ſafe keeping of the property he receives, while the Treaſurer, in whoſe hands alone it can with propriety be placed, is bound, with two or more ſureties, in the ſum of *thirty thouſand pounds*, altho' the fourth part of that ſum is ſeldom in his poſſeſſion at one time.

Without proceeding farther in this detail, the committee beg leave to obſerve, that whether from the impracticable and unwieldy duties of the office, or from a want of clearneſs and method in ſtating and keeping the public accounts, the whole buſineſs is greatly in arrear.

The account between this ſtate and the United States, although ſeven years have been employed upon it, is not yet compleated. No entries have been made in his general books of any tranſactions ſince *February* 1786, and the numerous accounts depending between the ſtate and individuals, which are filed in his office, and which, in caſe of accident happening to the officer, would be almoſt the only evidence of the tranſaction, would, from their unſettled ſtate, only ſerve to miſlead. Notwithſtanding the acts of the 28th *March* and 30th *September*, 1789, he has furniſhed the Regiſter-General with no more than about ſixty of the balances due at the firſt mentioned period. The regular ſettlement with officers employed in collecting the revenues is in equal diſorder. Since the 28th of *March*, the accounts of only ſix collectors of exciſe and five county treaſurers, of ten prothonotaries and clerks of quarter ſeſſions collecting fines and forfeitures, marriage and tavern licences, of four of the prothonotaries liable to pay taxes upon legal proceſs, and of five county lieutenants, have been ſettled.

Some of theſe officers, who have not ſettled, have however made payments on *account* ſince the period referred to; but the manner in which many of thoſe payments have been made ſtrongly evinces the neceſſity of thorough and immediate reformation. Inſtead of bringing money, they have produced receipts or certificates of their having already paid away the ſum for which they demand credit to perſons drawing intereſt from the ſtate; thus preferring their friends and favorites, while the ſuffering creditor, who relies upon the general treaſury, is unjuſtly poſtponed. And theſe preferences are frequently given out of funds ſpecifically appropriated to other demands.

The only effectual means which have occurred to the committee of remedying theſe evils is, to veſt the management of the whole productive part of the revenue in the Treaſurer of the ſtate, ſubject to proper examination and controul. Regularity, vigour and œconomy, appear to the committee to be the obvious conſequences of this meaſure, if adopted.

The examination of the evidence of demands brought againſt the ſtate, and the preparation and ſtatement of accounts, requiring more time and trouble than the reviſion of them afterwards, the committee apprehend that it would promote the completion of the unfiniſhed buſineſs in the hands of the Comptroller-General, if the accounts hereafter occurring were ſubmitted, in the firſt inſtance, to the Regiſter-General, to be afterwards laid before the Comptroller-General, for his inſpection and approbation.

By theſe meaſures the time of the latter officer may be applied, with little interruption, to the diſcharge of that long arrearage of official duty, ſo pernicious to the commonwealth; the accounts in which it is intereſted may in time be ſettled; the annual requiſition for a ſtate of our finances be eaſily complied with; and it may not again be neceſſary to appoint a committee, to enquire "why the public accounts have not been furniſhed, "agreeably to law."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That it is neceſſary to introduce greater regularity, vigour and œconomy, in the collection of the public revenues. That for this purpoſe, the ſettlement of the accounts of the collectors of exciſe, county treaſurers, prothonotaries, and clerks of courts of quarter ſeſſions collecting fines and forfeitures, monies paid for marriage and tavern licences and taxes upon writs, the receiver-general, and the auctioneers of the city of *Philadelphia;* the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties*, and alſo the accounts of fees received by the ſecretary of Council and officers of the land-office, ought to be veſted in the treaſurer of the ſtate, ſubject to proper examination and controul.

Reſolved, That the receipt of the intereſt and the remaining part of the principal of the monies loaned by the ſtate to its citizens ought to be effected with leſs circuity and expence; for which purpoſe, the powers now veſted in the officers of the loan-office ought to be transferred to the treaſurer of the ſtate.

Reſolved, That the intereſt of the commonwealth requires that the account between the United States and this ſtate ſhould be compleated without further delay, and that all accounts depending between this ſtate and individuals, or bodies politic (other than the United States) ſhould be ſettled and adjuſted to the 28th day of *March,* 1789; for which purpoſe, it is neceſſary to inveſt the Regiſter-General with the power of ſtating and adjuſting all accounts hereafter occurring between the ſtate and individuals, or bodies politic, ſubject to the reviſion of the Comptroller-General, and final approbation of the Supreme Executive Council.

Reſolved, That the cuſtody of all certificates granted by the United States, and received in payment for lands, or otherwiſe, by this ſtate, except certificates received on loan by virtue of the act paſſed *March* 1ſt, 1786, ought to be veſted in the treaſurer of the ſtate.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes before mentioned.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Fannet* townſhip, in the county of *Franklin,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That ſundry inhabitants of *Fannet* townſhip, in *Franklin* county, who have requeſted an exoneration from taxes, have leave to withdraw their petition.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for altering a certain clauſe in the charter of the corporation for the relief of the widows and children of Clergymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church in the United States of* America," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Mr. *Rawle,* in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to confirm and eſtabliſh the titles of lands, tenements and hereditaments, held under the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania;" and, having obtained leave for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for granting the ſum of* pounds, *towards repairing a road acroſs the* Blue Mountain, *in the county of* Cumberland."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe the ſale of the barracks in the borough of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating fences, and directing the mode of proceeding with treſpaſſing creatures within the counties herein after mentioned,*" was read the third time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The report on the ſeveral letters from the Regiſter-General and Comptroller-General, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report.

Which was carried in the affirmative. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the ſaid report, as well as of the report of the committee appointed *February* 19th, to enquire and report the reaſons why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, and of the reſolutions contained in the motion made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*, be printed, for the uſe of the members.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 13, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *February* 25th, on the petition of the truſtees of the public ſchool at *Germantown*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the truſtees of the public ſchool at *Germantown*, report——

That they have enquired into the ſituation of the ſaid ſchool, and the general circumſtances of the inhabitants contiguous thereto, and are of opinion, that, from the nature of their occupations, being generally induſtrious tradeſmen, upon whoſe daily labour depends the ſupport of their families, and from the populous neighbourhood of ſuch families which ſurround the ſaid ſchool, whoſe induſtry ſuffices to ſupport their families, but cannot enable them to give ſufficient learning to their children, it appears to your committee to be a ſchool, that, with a ſmall aſſiſtance from the legiſlature, may become a beneficial nurſery of learning to a very uſeful claſs of citizens; and as the only fund in the gift of the legiſlature is land, the appropriated 60,000 acres of which cannot be properly broken in upon at this time, yet as ſeveral grants have been made for like purpoſes out of the unappropriated lands of this ſtate, we conceive this ſmall, but uſeful, ſeminary may be aided with great propriety out of ſaid lands, on condition of actual ſettlements to be made thereon within a limited time: Therefore your committee beg leave to ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to grant acres of the unappropriated lands of this ſtate to the truſtees of the public ſchool at *Germantown*, free of charges of ſurveying and other office fees, on condition that they ſettle thereon one family for every tract of 300 acres thereof, within years after the date of the grant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 20th, on the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the eaſtern parts of *Dauphin* county, and the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the north-weſtern part of the county of *Berks*, praying for a diviſion of the county of *Dauphin* aforeſaid, beg leave to report——

That it appears to your committee that the petitioners labour under many diſadvantages on account of their diſtant ſituation from the ſeat of juſtice; yet, however proper your committee might deem a diviſion of ſaid county, they conceive the boundary lines of the propoſed county extend too far, in as much as the ſaid lines would render the old county too ſmall, and conſequently be injurious to the inhabitants thereof: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the eaſtern parts of the county of *Dauphin,* and of the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the north-weſtern part of the county of *Berks,* cannot at this time be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Congregation of St.* James's "*church, in the borough of* Briſtol, *and county of* Bucks," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Cook,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hopkins,* Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *M'Creight,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Frederick Dorſh,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Erb,* Mr. *Reiff* and Mr. *Mitchell,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 19th laſt, on that part of the report of the committee which reſpects the act, entituled "*An Act for amending* "*the penal laws of this ſtate,*" made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the conſideration of the act, entituled "*An Act to amend the penal laws of this ſtate,*" report——

That in the opinion of the committee it will be expedient to continue the ſyſtem of puniſhment contained in the act above mentioned for a limited time, with certain improvements, to be directed by the Legiſlature, in the manner of carrying it into effect: For which purpoſe they ſubmit the following reſolutions, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to continue the act, entituled "*An Act to amend the penal laws of this ſtate,*" for years, and to repeal the ſupplement thereto.

Reſolved, That the committee be inſtructed to report a ſupplementary bill, founded upon the following principles, *viz.*

That all offenders ſentenced to hard labour be confined and employed in ſolitary cells or apartments, under the inſpection of keepers by day, and the guard of a centinel at night: That for this purpoſe a ſuitable number of cells, feet in width, feet in depth, and feet in heighth, be conſtructed in the yard of the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia:* That the Courts of Quarter Seſſions in the ſeveral counties ſhall be authoriſed to ſend perſons convicted in their reſpective counties to the ſaid gaol, to be confined at hard labour during the time for which they ſhall reſpectively receive ſentence: And that the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the ſum of   to be applied towards erecting the ſame, the remainder thereof to be paid by the city and county of *Philadelphia*; provided the whole expence ſhall not exceed the ſum of   : That the remaining part of the gaol be divided into apartments, for the ſeparate confinement of female convicts, perſons charged with miſdemeanors, vagrants and diſorderly perſons, committed by the order of any Magiſtrate.

Reſolved, That the work-houſe of the city of *Philadelphia* be ſet apart for the reception of debtors, and of perſons committed to ſecure their appearance as witneſſes, and who are not charged with any miſdemeanor or higher offence.

Reſolved, That convicts having eſcaped, or having been pardoned, and committing offences which were liable to be capitally puniſhed before enacting the ſaid law, ſhall be liable to the ſame puniſhments as if the ſaid act had not been made: That a proportionable part of the ſurplus, if any, from the labour of ſuch convicts, after deducting the expences of cloathing and ſubſiſtence, ſhall be laid aſide for the uſe of ſuch convict, to be delivered to him at the expiration of his confinement, if he has behaved himſelf well.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Balliot* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to confirm and eſtabliſh the titles of lands, tenements and hereditaments, held under the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania," read yeſterday, be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Maclay*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Eleazer Oſwald*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing *Eleazer Oſwald* to ſell and diſpoſe of one ſixth part of the lot of ground mentioned in his petition to this Houſe, for the uſe of the minors in the ſaid petition named.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Alliſon* and Mr. *Roberts* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Mr. *Carſon*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to erect the town of*   , *in the county of* Dauphin, *into a borough*;" and, having obtained leave for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the report on the ſeveral letters from the Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General, poſtponed yeſterday, as well as to take up for a ſecond reading the report of the committee appointed to enquire, and report the reaſons why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, and to conſider the reſolutions contained in the motion made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*, and that they be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in favour of* Robert Thorn," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 15, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, containing certain remarks on the ſubject matters contained in the report on the ſeveral letters from the ſaid Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General, poſtponed *March* 12th, as well as in the report of the committee appointed to enquire, and report the reaſons why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, and the reſolutions contained in the motion made by Mr. *Rawle*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*, was read, together with its encloſures, lettered from A. to H. incluſive.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred, *November* 18th laſt, the report of a committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly reſpecting the repairs of *Mud-Iſland*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, appointed the 18th of *November* laſt, to take into conſideration the report of a committee made to the late Houſe of Aſſembly the 29th *September*, 1789, beg leave to report——

That it appears the banks of *Mud-Iſland*, in the river *Delaware*, were ſo exceedingly decayed by high freſhes, &c. as to endanger the fortifications and other buildings erected thereon, the property of this ſtate; that the Preſident and Council have, in order to prevent their going to ruin, expended *four hundred and ninety-ſix pounds eight ſhillings and three-pence*, by draughts on the treaſury, towards the repairs thereof, without any expreſs appropriation having been made by law for that purpoſe; that the further ſum of *five hundred pounds* is required, to compleat the neceſſary repairs in a permanent manner; and as the preſervation of the ſaid iſland, fort and other property, is a very deſirable object, your committee ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, directing the State Treaſurer to ſet apart *one thouſand pounds* of the intereſt ariſing from the Loan-Office, for the purpoſe of replacing the *four hundred and ninety-ſix pounds eight ſhillings and three-pence* already expended on the banks of *Mud-Iſland*, as well as to furniſh a ſum ſufficient to complete the further repairs required on ſaid iſland; and to authoriſe the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to employ ſuitable perſons, by contract or otherwiſe (as to them ſhall ſeem beſt) to put the banks of *Mud-Iſland* into good and durable repair, and to pay for the ſame by a warrant or warrants, drawn on the State Treaſury, for any ſum not exceeding *five hundred and three pounds eleven ſhillings and nine-pence.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred, *November* 28th laſt, all the papers on the files of the General Aſſembly reſpecting the claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred all the papers on the files of the late Houſe relative to diſputed lands in the county of *Luzerne*, and alſo the petition of *Henry Pawling*, report——

That upon due conſideration of all the circumſtances of the caſe, they are of opinion that it is proper and neceſſary to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and* "*for other purpoſes therein mentioned*:" They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons,* "*called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county* "*of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred, *February* 10th, the petitions of 895 inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin*, and to whom was re-committed, *February* 16th, that part of the report of a committee, read *December* 7th laſt, which reſpects the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Potter*'s, *Bald-Eagle*, *Lack*, *Milford*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, in the county of *Mifflin* aforeſaid, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin*, relative to the ſeat of juſtice and boundary line of ſaid county, to whom was alſo referred the report of a former committee on the ſame ſubject, and a letter from three of the Truſtees for erecting the public buildings of ſaid county, report——

That they have carefully attended to the buſineſs referred to them, and endeavoured to gain every information in their power that appeared likely to lead to a proper determination; and, after mature conſideration, are not able to diſcover any ſufficient reaſon for removing the ſeat of juſtice of the ſaid county of *Mifflin* from the place where it is already fixed by law, although they are of opinion that ſome of the boundary lines may at ſome future time admit of alterations to advantage: They are alſo of opinion that it will be proper to appoint an additional Commiſſioner, or Truſtee, for erecting the court-houſe and priſon for ſaid county: The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolutions, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer contained in the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, to be re-annexed to *Northumberland* county, ought not at this time to be granted.

Reſolved, That the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Mifflin* county, and part of *Greenwood* townſhip, in *Cumberland* county, praying for a removal of the ſeat of juſtice in ſaid county of *Mifflin*, ought not to be granted, and that they, together with the petitioners mentioned in the laſt preceding reſolution, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for appointing an additional Truſtee for erecting a court-houſe and priſon in and for the county of *Mifflin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 24th, on the petition of *Mary Harriſon*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Mary Harriſon*, report——

That the particulars ſtated in the petition of *Mary Harriſon* appear to be true; that it is not to be preſumed to have been the intention of the Legiſlature to puniſh the innocent creditor for the faults of the guilty debtor, which would moſt certainly be the conſequence, if the act of the 6th *March*, 1778, is to be adhered to in the preſent caſe: Your committee, feeling a conviction that the Houſe are deſirous of extending equal juſtice to all, offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Mary Harriſon* be complied with; that ſhe have leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes ſet forth in ſaid petition, provided the rate of exchange ſhall not exceed *one hundred and ſixty-ſix pounds thirteen ſhillings and four-pence* currency for *one hundred pounds* ſterling.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to reform the penal laws of this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for compenſating* Laughlin M'Cartney, *and* "*others therein mentioned, for ſupplies by them furniſhed the civil officers of* " Northumberland *county in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-* "*five*," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *White*, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas the General Aſſembly, by a reſolve, appointed *John Byers*, *Chriſtopher Gottig* and *Henry Haller* Commiſſioners, to view and examine the preſent road leading from *Conrad Minick*'s to *Sunbury*, and to mark and lay out a road, the beſt and neareſt the country will admit of, from and to the places aforeſaid; and by the ſame reſolve did empower the ſaid commiſſioners to call on the treaſurer of *Northumberland* county for all arrearages of the *eighteen-penny* taxes then in the hands of the ſaid treaſurer, or that might thereafter come into his hands, excepting only ſuch ſums as had been paid by order of the Supreme Executive Council for the defence of the frontier of ſaid the county: And whereas the ſaid commiſſioners, by the ſaid reſolve, were to report their proceedings to the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, of the money by them received, and of their expenditures, from time to time, and of the amendments and alterations which they may make in the ſaid road: And as it is apprehended that a conſiderable ſum of the ſaid *eighteen-penny* taxes yet remains unaccounted for by the treaſurer and county commiſſioners of *Northumberland* county, and as the commiſſioners appointed for viewing and repairing the ſaid road have not rendered an account to the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, agreeable to the intention of the General Aſſembly when the ſaid commiſſioners were appointed: Therefore

Reſolved, That the ſaid *John Byers*, *Chriſtopher Gottig* and *Henry Haller*, be called upon to report their proceedings under the reſolve of the General

Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania* of the 22d of *March*, 1784, in every matter and thing done by them under the ſaid reſolve, to the General Aſſembly, at their next ſeſſion; and that the Clerk of the General Aſſembly be directed to furniſh the ſaid commiſſioners with a copy of this reſolution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act of Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act for the relief of inſolvent debtors within the province "of *Pennſylvania*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 16, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the members of the religious ſociety called *Seventh-day Baptiſts*, and others in their behalf, was read, ſetting forth, that by the law now in force they are ſubjected to fine for labouring on the firſt day of the week, and deprived of the rights and privileges enjoyed by the other citizens of this ſtate of attending the townſhip elections, in as much as they are directed to be held on the ſeventh days of the week, being the day allotted by ſaid ſociety for their public worſhip; and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the *Hebrew* congregation in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that they have at a conſiderable expence erected a houſe for the worſhip of God; that they are ſtill indebted to divers perſons for compleating the ſame about *eight hundred pounds*, and for which the ſame will be ſold by public auction, unleſs payment of the ſaid ſum be made; that the number of their members is conſiderably diminiſhed, and the congregation unable to diſchage the ſaid debt; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them leave to bring in a bill, to raiſe, by way of lottery, a ſum of money ſufficient for the aforeſaid purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 20th, on the petition of *George Ingles*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *George Ingles*, Inſpector of ſtaves and heading, report——

That the defects complained of in the ſaid petition as exiſting in the preſent laws relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading, boards and lumber, appear to require the intervention of the legiſlative powers of this Houſe: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading, boards and lumber.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the ſeveral letters from the Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General, poſtponed *March* 12th: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The report of the committee appointed to enquire, and report the reaſons why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, and the reſolutions contained in the motion made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*, were, agreeably to the order of the day, ſeverally read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell*,

To poſtpone the ſaid report and reſolutions.

It was then moved by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

To amend the ſaid motion, by inſerting, after the word " *reſolutions*," the words, " *until to-morrow*."

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the motion for poſtponement, as amended, adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Harris*,

That one hundred copies of the letter from the Comptroller-General, read yeſterday, be printed, for the uſe of the members.

A letter from *Sharp Delany*, Eſq; was preſented to the chair, and read, contradicting certain charges contained in the letter from the Comptroller-General, read yeſterday.

Ordered to lie on the table.

It was then moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay*,

To ſtrike off one hundred copies of the ſaid letter from the Comptroller-General, together with the ſtatement of divers public accounts, marked A. for the uſe of the members.

On the queſtion,— " *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid motion of Mr.* Kennedy *and Mr.* Maclay?"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Gurney*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Thomas Kennedy*,
2 *David Mitchell*,
3 *Jonathan Hoge*,
4 *John Ludwig*,
5 *Nicholas Lutz*,
6 *John Moore*,
7 *Samuel Maclay*,
8 *John Baird*,
9 *James Barr*,
10 *James Alliſon*,
11 *Alexander Wright*,

YEAS.

12 *James Marſhall*,
13 *John Gilchreeſt*,
14 *James Finley*,
15 *James Johnſton*,
16 *John Rhea*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *John Carſon*,
19 *James M'Creight*,
20 *John Harris*,
21 *John Nevil*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *William Rawle*,
3 *Francis Gurney*,
4 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
5 *Thomas Paul*,
6 *Thomas Britton*,
7 *Valentine Upp*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *James Bryan*,
10 *Richard Thomas*,

NAYS.

11 *Richard Downing*, jun.
12 *John M'Dowell*,
13 *James Clemſon*,
14 *John Hopkins*,
15 *Henry Dering*,
16 *James Cunningham*,
17 *Jacob Erb*,
18 *John Miller*,
19 *Thomas Clingan*,
20 *Joſeph Reed*,

NAYS.

21 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
22 *John Stewart,*
23 *Thomas Lilley,*
24 *William Godfrey,*
25 *Daniel Leinbach,*
26 *Peter Ealer,*
27 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
28 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
29 *Herman Huſband,*

NAYS.

30 *John White,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *Jonathan Roberts,*
33 *Benjamin Markley,*
34 *James Vaux,*
35 *Obadiah Gore,*
36 *David Stewart,*
37 *Hugh Lloyd,*
38 *Richard Riley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux,*

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report read yeſterday, reſpecting the claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne,* and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* John Lytle, John Webb *and* "William Murray," was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee reſpecting the repairs of *Mud-Iſland,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, directing the State Treaſurer to ſet apart *one thouſand pounds* of the intereſt ariſing from the Loan-Office, for the purpoſe of replacing the *four hundred and ninety-ſix pounds eight ſhillings and three-pence* already expended on the banks of *Mud-Iſland,* as well as to furniſh a ſum ſufficient to complete the further repairs required on ſaid iſland; and to authoriſe the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to employ ſuitable perſons, by contract or otherwiſe (as to them ſhall ſeem beſt) to put the banks of *Mud-Iſland* into good and durable repair, and to pay for the ſame by a warrant or warrants, drawn on the State Treaſury, for any ſum not exceeding *five hundred and three pounds eleven ſhillings and nine-pence.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Gurney* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The petition of *John Glen,* read *December* 9th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That he have leave to withdraw his petition.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 17, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, dated *March* 16th inſtant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 20th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moreland, Abington, Cheltenham* and *Springfield,* in the county of *Montgomery,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Moreland, Abington, Cheltenham* and *Springfield* townſhips, in the county of *Montgomery,* praying to be ſeparated from the county of *Montgomery,* and annexed to the county of *Philadelphia,* report——

That fully convinced of the impropriety of altering county lines, unleſs in caſes of ſtrong neceſſity, and conceiving that ſuch neceſſity does not exiſt in the preſent inſtance, they are of opinion that leave ſhould be given to withdraw the ſaid petitions: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That leave be given to withdraw the petitions ſigned by a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moreland, Abington, Cheltenham* and *Springfield,* praying that the ſaid townſhips may be annexed to the county of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th inſt. on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Bedford* county, praying for an exoneration from militia fines, beg leave to report——

That they have duly conſidered the ſubject matter of their petition, and find, that by the act of Aſſembly of the 27th of *March,* 1789, the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* and of the ſeveral counties of this commonwealth, have full power and authority to hold appeals, and to grant exonerations from militia fines, as in their judgment and diſcretion ſhall ſeem meet; your committee are therefore of opinion that it would be improper for the legiſlature to interfere, where the exiſting laws have already ſufficiently provided: They therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners from the county of *Bedford,* praying for an exoneration of militia fines, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 16th laſt, on the memorial and petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia,* made report in part, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial and petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the city of *Philadelphia,* report in part,—

That without entering at preſent into the conſideration of the extenſive powers for the internal regulation of the city of *Philadelphia,* applied for by the memorialiſts, it appears requiſite that immediate proviſion ſhould be made to obviate certain inconveniencies, ariſing from a defect of proper authority to provide for the watching, lighting, paving and cleanſing the ſtreets, and other local purpoſes: They have therefore taken the liberty to report a bill for theſe ſpecial purpoſes only, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia.*" Which bill was preſented to the chair, read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed to enquire, and report the reaſons why the public accounts have not been furniſhed to this Houſe, agreeably to law, poſtponed yeſterday, as well as the reſolutions moved by Mr. *Rawle,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas.*

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay*, To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report and reſolutions.

On the queſtion,— " *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Gurney*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Cunningham*,
2 *Thomas Clingan*,
3 *Joſeph Reed*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Jonathan Hoge*,
7 *John Ludwig*,
8 *Nicholas Lutz*,
9 *Daniel Leinbach*,
10 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
11 *John Moore*,
12 *Herman Huſband*,
13 *Samuel Maclay*,

YEAS.

14 *John Baird*,
15 *James Barr*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *James Marſhall*,
19 *John Gilchreeſt*,
20 *James Finley*,
21 *James Johnſton*,
22 *John Rhea*,
23 *John Carſon*,
24 *Obadiah Gore*,
25 *John Nevil*,
26 *John Harris*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Rawle*,
5 *Francis Gurney*,
6 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
7 *Thomas Paul*,
8 *Thomas Britton*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *James Bryan*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Richard Downing*, jun.
14 *James Clemſon*,
15 *John Hopkins*,
16 *Henry Dering*,
17 *Jacob Erb*,

NAYS.

18 *John Miller*,
19 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
20 *John Stewart*,
21 *Thomas Lilley*,
22 *William Godfrey*,
23 *Peter Ealer*,
24 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
25 *Jacob Reiff*,
26 *Jonathan Roberts*,
27 *Benjamin Markley*,
28 *James Vaux*,
29 *Jacob Miley*,
30 *James M'Creight*,
31 *David Stewart*,
32 *Hugh Lloyd*,
33 *Richard Riley*.

So it was carried in the negative.

And the firſt of the ſaid propoſed reſolutions being under conſideration, *viz.* *Reſolved*, That it is neceſſary to introduce greater regularity, vigour and œconomy in the collection of the public revenues. That for this purpoſe the ſettlement of the accounts of the Collectors of Exciſe, County Treaſurers, Prothonotaries, and Clerks of Courts of Quarter Seſſions collecting fines and forfeitures, monies paid for marriage and tavern licences, and taxes upon writs, the Receiver-General, and the Auctioneers of the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and townſhips of the *Northern-Liberties* and *Moyamenſing*, and alſo the accounts of fees received by the Secretary of

Council, and the officers of the Land-Office ought to be veſted in the Treaſurer of the ſtate, ſubject to proper examination and controul.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

To ſtrike out the word "*ſettlement*," and the word "*veſted*," and in lieu of the former to inſert the word "*arranging*," and of the latter the word "*ſubmitted*;" and to add to the ſaid reſolution the following words, *viz.* "*of the Comptroller-General.*"

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the propoſed amendments?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The original reſolution then recurring, *viz.*

Reſolved, That it is neceſſary to introduce greater regularity, vigour and œconomy in the collection of the public revenues. That for this purpoſe the ſettlement of the accounts of the Collectors of Exciſe, County Treaſurers, Prothonotaries, and Clerks of Courts of Quarter Seſſions collecting fines and forfeitures, monies paid for marriage and tavern licences and taxes upon writs, the Receiver-General, and the Auctioneers of the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and townſhips of the *Northern-Liberties* and *Moyamenſing*, and alſo the accounts of fees received by the Secretary of Council and Officers of the Land-Office, ought to be veſted in the Treaſurer of the ſtate, ſubject to proper examination and controul.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Vaux*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Rawle*,
5 *Francis Gurney*,
6 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
7 *Thomas Paul*,
8 *Thomas Britton*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *James Bryan*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Richard Downing*, jun.
14 *James Clemſon*,
15 *John Hopkins*,
16 *Henry Dering*,
17 *James Cunningham*,
18 *Jacob Erb*,
19 *John Miller*,
20 *Thomas Clingan*,
21 *Jacob Schmyſer*,

YEAS.

22 *John Stewart*,
23 *Thomas Lilley*,
24 *William Godfrey*,
25 *Peter Ealer*,
26 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
27 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
28 *John Moore*,
29 *Herman Huſband*,
30 *James Barr*,
31 *Jacob Reiff*,
32 *Jonathan Roberts*,
33 *Benjamin Markley*,
34 *James Vaux*,
35 *Jacob Miley*,
36 *John Carſon*,
37 *James M'Creight*,
38 *Obadiah Gore*,
39 *David Stewart*,
40 *Hugh Lloyd*,
41 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Joſeph Reed*,
2 *Thomas Kennedy*,
3 *David Mitchell*,
4 *Jonathan Hoge*,

NAYS.

5 *Nicholas Lutz*,
6 *Daniel Leinbach*,
7 *Samuel Maclay*,
8 *John Baird*,

NAYS.

9 *James Alliſon,*
10 *Alexander Wright,*
11 *James Marſhall,*
12 *John Gilchreeſt,*
13 *James Finley,*

NAYS.

14 *James Johnſton,*
15 *John Rhea,*
16 *John Nevil,*
17 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Reſolved, That the receipt of the intereſt, and the remaining part of the principal of the monies loaned by the ſtate to its citizens, ought to be effected with leſs circuity and expence; for which purpoſe the powers now veſted in the officers of the loan-office ought to be transferred to the treaſurer of the ſtate.

The following of the propoſed reſolutions being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the intereſt of the commonwealth requires that the account between the United States and this ſtate ſhould be compleated without further delay, and that all accounts depending between this ſtate and individuals, or bodies politic (other than the United States) ſhould be ſettled and adjuſted to the 28th day of *March,* 1789; for which purpoſe, it is neceſſary to inveſt the Regiſter-General with the power of ſtating and adjuſting all accounts hereafter occurring between the ſtate and individuals, or bodies politic, ſubject to the reviſion of the Comptroller-General, and final approbation of the Supreme Executive Council.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To ſtrike out the words, "*to inveſt the Regiſter-General with the power* " *of ſtating and adjuſting all accounts hereafter occurring between the ſtate and* " *individuals, or bodies politic, ſubject to the reviſion of the Comptroller-Gene-* " *ral, and final approbation of the Supreme Executive Council,*" in order to inſert the following in lieu thereof, "*to allow the Comptroller-General an* " *additional Clerk for one year.*"

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to ſtrike out the ſaid words, for* " *the purpoſe aforeſaid?*"

It was carried in the negative, and the original reſolution adopted.

Reſolved, That the cuſtody of all certificates granted by the United States, and received in payment for lands, or otherwiſe, by this ſtate, except certificates received on loan by virtue of the act paſſed *March* 1ſt, 1786, ought to be veſted in the treaſurer of the ſtate.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſes before mentioned.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Ryerſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney,* and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General be directed to proceed with the utmoſt expedition in preparing and ſtating the account between this ſtate and the United States, in bringing forward the books of office to the twenty-eighth day of *March,* 1789, in ſettling all accounts between this ſtate and individuals, or bodies politic, other than the United States, which ſtill remain unſettled, and in taking legal meaſures for recovering all ſuch ſums of money, as, upon ſuch ſettlements, ſhall be found due to the commonwealth, and that he report what progreſs he has made herein to this Houſe, at their next ſeſſion.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, with divers encloſures, was read, relative to the ſubject matters contained in the letter from *Sharp Delany*, Eſquire, read yeſterday.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 18, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying the exciſe laws now in force may be ſo altered and amended, as to preclude any duty or impoſition upon liquors made or diſtilled from the productions of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſetting forth, that they conceive themſelves materially injured by the act, entituled "*An Act for veſting the eſtate of the late Proprietaries of* " Pennſylvania *in this commonwealth*," in as much as they are by the ſaid act ſubjected to the payment of a proportionable part of the ſum of *one hundred and thirty thouſand pounds* granted to the ſaid Proprietaries, for the the purpoſe of extinguiſhing the quit-rents, other than the proprietary tenths or manors, and praying they may be in like manner exempted from the payment of all quit-rents.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Daniel Rees* was read, ſtating his claim againſt *Alexander Bartram*, an attainted traitor, whoſe eſtate and effects have been ſold for the uſe of the commonwealth, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* " *Act to make proviſion for the repairs of* Mud-Iſland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 9th, on the petition of *William Tillyer*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *William Tillyer*, report——

That if the finances of the ſtate would admit of diſcharging the principal of the debts it has become liable to, the hard caſe of the petitioner, in common with many others, would receive relief; but until the ſtate is able to accompliſh ſo deſirable a point, upon ſeveral principles the committee apprehend that the petitioner muſt be content to receive the intereſt of his debt, in common with the other creditors of the ſtate: They ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *William Tillyer* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report,——

That, in conſequence of the order of the Houſe, they have received of *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, late Treaſurer of this ſtate, the following ſums of money, *viz.*

Of the bills of credit emitted by act of Aſſembly of 16th *March,* 1785, being part of the annual ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds* ordered by law to be burnt, *one thouſand one hundred and fifty-four pounds three ſhillings and three-pence.*

Of the bills of credit emitted by act of *April* 29th, 1780, called Iſland money, *forty-two pounds ten ſhillings.*

Of the bills of credit emitted by reſolve of Aſſembly of the late province, *two thouſand four hundred and five pounds and ſeven-pence.*

Of the bills of credit emitted by act of 7th *April,* 1781, *two thouſand eight hundred and eighty-one pounds fourteen ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

Of treaſury notes, iſſued by act of Aſſembly 1783, returned to the treaſury by *Thomas Smith,* Eſquire, Continental Loan-Officer, being never iſſued in payment, two thouſand nine hundred and fifty-eight dollars and forty-five ninetieths.

All which we have counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.

The report on the petition of *Mary Harriſon,* read *March* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The motion made by Mr. *Maclay,* and ſeconded by Mr. *White, March* 15th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the General Aſſembly, by a reſolve, appointed *John Byers, Chriſtopher Gottig* and *Henry Haller* Commiſſioners, to view and examine the preſent road leading from *Conrad Minick*'s to *Sunbury,* and to mark and lay out a road, the beſt and neareſt the country will admit of, from and to the places aforeſaid; and by the ſame reſolve did empower the ſaid commiſſioners to call on the treaſurer of *Northumberland* county for all arrearages of the *eighteen-penny* taxes then in the hands of the ſaid treaſurer, or that might thereafter come into his hands, excepting only ſuch ſums as had been paid by order of the Supreme Executive Council for the defence of the frontier of the ſaid county: And whereas the ſaid commiſſioners, by the ſaid reſolve, were to report their proceedings to the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, of the money by them received, and of their expenditures, from time to time, and of the amendments and alterations which they may make in the ſaid road: And as it is apprehended that a conſiderable ſum of the ſaid *eighteen-penny* taxes yet remains unaccounted for by the treaſurer and county commiſſioners of *Northumberland* county, and as the commiſſioners appointed for viewing and repairing the ſaid road have not rendered an account to the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, agreeable to the intention of the General Aſſembly when the ſaid commiſſioners were appointed: Therefore

Reſolved, That the ſaid *John Byers, Chriſtopher Gottig* and *Henry Haller,* be called upon to report their proceedings under the reſolve of the General Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania* of the 22d of *March,* 1784, in every matter and thing done by them under the ſaid reſolve, to the General Aſſembly, at their next ſeſſion; and that the Clerk of the General Aſſembly be directed to furniſh the ſaid commiſſioners with a copy of this reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the memorial and petition of *James Biddle*, Eſquire, poſtponed *March* 11th.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of ſaid report.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. *Rawle* then, in his place, read a reſolution, as a ſubſtitute for that contained in the ſaid report; and being ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*, the ſame was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to reduce the tax upon writs iſſued out of the County Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia*, to the ſum of   upon each of ſuch writs.

It was then moved by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to reduce the tax on writs iſſued out of the County Courts of Common Pleas of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, in which ſuch tax is impoſed by law, to the ſum of   upon each of ſuch writs.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The reſolution moved by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*, recurring,

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle*,

To inſert, after the word " *reduce*," the words " *for one year.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the reſolution, as amended?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to reduce, for one year, the tax upon writs iſſued out of the County Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia*, to the ſum of   upon each of ſuch writs.

The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Rhea*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Francis Gurney*,
5 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
6 *Elias Boys*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *James Bryan*,
9 *Richard Thomas*,
10 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
11 *Thomas Lilley*,
12 *Jonathan Hoge*,
13 *John Ludwig*,
14 *Nicholas Lutz*,
15 *Daniel Leinbach*,

YEAS.

16 *Peter Ealer*,
17 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
18 *Samuel Maclay*,
19 *John White*,
20 *John Baird*,
21 *Jacob Reiff*,
22 *Jonathan Roberts*,
23 *Benjamin Markley*,
24 *James Vaux*,
25 *Jacob Miley*,
26 *John Carſon*,
27 *David Stewart*,
28 *John Nevil*,
29 *Hugh Lloyd*,
30 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Paul,*
2 *Thomas Britton,*
3 *Valentine Upp,*
4 *Richard Downing,* jun.
5 *James Clemſon,*
6 *John Hopkins,*
7 *Henry Dering,*
8 *James Cunningham,*
9 *Jacob Erb,*
10 *John Miller,*
11 *Joſeph Reed,*
12 *John Stewart,*
13 *William Godfrey,*
14 *Thomas Kennedy,*

NAYS.

15 *David Mitchell,*
16 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
17 *John Moore,*
18 *Herman Huſband,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *James Alliſon,*
21 *Alexander Wright,*
22 *James Marſhall,*
23 *John Gilchreeſt,*
24 *James Finley,*
25 *James Johnſton,*
26 *John Rhea,*
27 *Obadiah Gore,*
28 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the ſaid reſolution.

A letter from *Sharp Delany,* Eſquire, containing remarks on the letter from the Comptroller-General dated the 17th inſtant, was read, together with its encloſure, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, dated this day, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Additional Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The report on the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Dauphin,* read *March* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Miley,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report.

Which was carried in the negative.

And the reſolution contained therein being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the eaſtern parts of the county of *Dauphin,* and of the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the north-weſtern part of the county of *Berks,* cannot at this time be granted.

It was moved by Mr. *Carſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay,*

To add the following words to the ſaid reſolution, *viz.* "*And that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petitions.*"

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*"

It was carried in the affirmative; and the reſolution, with the amendment, adopted.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday,

Friday, March 19, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed *German* congregation of the borough of *Reading* was read, ſetting forth, that they have at a conſiderable expence erected a church, ſchool-houſe and parſonage-houſe, within the ſaid borough; that notwithſtanding their utmoſt exertions to diſcharge the debts unavoidably contracted in erecting the ſaid buildings, they find themſelves conſiderably in arrear; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing them to raiſe, by way of lottery, a ſum of money ſufficient to diſcharge the ſaid arrearages.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to reduce the tax upon writs iſſued out of the County Court of Common* "*Pleas of* Philadelphia *county, during the time therein limited,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Reed* have leave of abſence for the remainder of the ſeſſion.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee, to whom were referred all the papers on the files of the General Aſſembly, reſpecting the claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne,* was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce a motion.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. *Lewis* then read his motion; and being ſeconded by Mr. *Aſhmead,* the ſame was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas a letter hath been ſent to this Houſe by *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, containing indecent and injurious reflections upon the character and conduct of *Conrad Ihrie,* junior, Eſquire, a member of this Houſe, in relation to his duty as a Repreſentative of the people, in breach of the privileges of this Houſe, and in high contempt of the Legiſlature of this ſtate: And whereas the ſaid *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, hath ſince cauſed the ſaid letter to be printed and publiſhed:

Reſolved, That the ſaid *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, do attend at the bar of this Houſe on *Monday* next, to anſwer for his conduct herein.

Mr. *Kennedy* then called for a diviſion of the queſtion, *viz.*

To take the queſtions on the preamble and reſolutions, ſeverally.

And Mr. Speaker requeſting the opinion of the Houſe,—"*Whether a* "*diviſion of the ſaid motion was in order?*"

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Harris,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle,* in order to take the queſtion,—"*Whether ſtating facts are* "*to be conſidered as a breach of privilege?*"

Which was carried in the negative.

The motion made by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle,* recurring, On the queſtion,— “ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lewis*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Rawle*,
5 *Francis Gurney*,
6 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
7 *Thomas Paul*,
8 *Thomas Britton*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *James Bryan*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Richard Downing*, jun.
14 *James Clemſon*,
15 *John Hopkins*,
16 *Henry Dering*,
17 *James Cunningham*,
18 *Jacob Erb*,

YEAS.

19 *John Miller*,
20 *Thomas Clingan*,
21 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
22 *John Stewart*,
23 *Thomas Lilley*,
24 *William Godfrey*,
25 *Peter Ealer*,
26 *John White*,
27 *Jacob Reiff*,
28 *Jonathan Roberts*,
29 *Benjamin Markley*,
30 *James Vaux*,
31 *John Carſon*,
32 *James M‘Creight*,
33 *Obadiah Gore*,
34 *David Stewart*,
35 *Hugh Lloyd*,
36 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys*,
2 *Joſeph Reed*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *David Mitchell*,
5 *Jonathan Hoge*,
6 *John Ludwig*,
7 *Nicholas Lutz*,
8 *Daniel Leinbach*,
9 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
10 *John Moore*,
11 *Herman Huſband*,
12 *Samuel Maclay*,

NAYS.

13 *John Baird*,
14 *James Barr*,
15 *James Alliſon*,
16 *Alexander Wright*,
17 *James Marſhall*,
18 *John Gilchreeſt*,
19 *James Finley*,
20 *James Johnſton*,
21 *John Rhea*,
22 *John Nevil*,
23 *John Harris*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Conrad Ihrie, Eſquire, a member of this Houſe, in his place, gave information, that he had been arreſted this morning by *Adam Stricker*, on a warrant from *George Bryan*, Eſquire, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this ſtate, a copy whereof he read, as follows, *viz*

PENNSYLVANIA, ſſ.

To the Sheriff of the county of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS complaint is made to me, verified on oath, that *Conrad Ihrie*, Eſquire, the younger, of *Northampton* county, did this day threaten, that if the Houſe of Aſſembly ſhould not do as he expected reſpecting *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, of the city of *Philadelphia*, he would take ſatisfaction out of the ſaid *John*'s ſkin, meaning, as it is apprehended, that he would beat the ſaid *John:* And whereas the ſaid *John* hath, on his oath, declared, that he feareth that the ſaid *Conrad* may execute his ſaid threats; thereupon craveth ſurety of the peace againſt the ſaid *Conrad.* Theſe are therefore to authoriſe and require you to take and bring the ſaid *Conrad* before me, to give ſurety of the peace, if need be, in the premiſes. Dated the eighteenth day of *March, Anno Domini* 1790.

G. BRYAN.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Downing,*

Reſolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms do bring before this Houſe, to-morrow morning, *Adam Stricker,* who this day arreſted *Conrad Ibrie,* junior, Eſquire, by virtue of a warrant from *George Bryan,* Eſquire, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

The order of the day then recurring,

On motion,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 20, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March* 19*th,* 1790.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to you, to be laid before the General Aſſembly, a letter from his Excellency Governor *Martin,* and a copy of a reſolution of the Convention of the State of *North-Carolina,* with ſeveral amendments, by them propoſed to become part of the conſtitution for the future government of the United States.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the encloſures were alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *George Bryan,* Eſquire, one of the Juſtices of the Supreme Court of this commonwealth, was preſented to the chair, and read, with a copy of his warrant incloſed, informing the Houſe, that on the application of *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, Comptroller-General, he iſſued a warrant, directed to the Sheriff of the county of *Philadelphia,* authoriſing and requiring him to take and bring before him the body of *Conrad*

Ihrie, jun. Eſq; of the county of *Northampton*, to find ſurety of the peace, if need be, as to the ſaid *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating, that he has been ſerved with a copy of the reſolution paſſed yeſterday, commanding his attendance at the bar of this Houſe on *Monday* next, and requeſting he may be heard by Counſel learned in the law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That his requeſt be granted.

The Sergeant-at-Arms informed the Houſe, that he had, in obedience to their order, the body of *Adam Stricker* in his cuſtody, ready to produce.

Ordered, That *Adam Stricker* be ſet to the bar of the Houſe.

Which was accordingly done.

The priſoner requeſted leave to preſent a petition, praying to be heard by Counſel learned in the law; and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, as likewiſe the original warrant, under the hand and ſeal of the Honorable *George Bryan*, Eſq; which were ſeverally read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid petition was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That the prayer of the petitioner be granted, and that *Adam Stricker* be brought to the bar on *Tueſday* next, in the afternoon; and that he now have leave to withdraw, remaining in cuſtody of the Sergeant-at-Arms in the mean time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

To poſtpone the order of the day, in order to reſume the conſideration of the report on the letters from the Regiſter-General and Comptroller-General, poſtponed *March* 16th.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And the ſaid report being under conſideration,

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolution in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council relative to the ſubjects contained in the letter from the Regiſter-General of the 16th of *February*, and the letters from the Comptroller-General of the 16th and 20th of *February*, and 4th of *March*.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the ſaid reſolution.

The order of the day recurring, *viz.* the ſecond reading of the report of the committee, read *March* 15th, reſpecting the claims to lands in the county of *Luzerne*;

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*" viz.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to repeal the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;"

The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Mitchell* and Mr. *Rhea*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Francis Gurney*,
2 *Thomas Paul*,
3 *Thomas Britton*,
4 *Elias Boys*,
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *James Bryan*,
9 *John M'Dowell*,
10 *James Clemſon*,
11 *James Cunningham*,
12 *Jacob Erb*,
13 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
14 *John Stewart*,
15 *Thomas Lilley*,
16 *William Godfrey*,
17 *Thomas Kennedy*,
18 *David Mitchell*,
19 *Jonathan Hoge*,
20 *John Ludwig*,
21 *Nicholas Lutz*,
22 *Daniel Leinbach*,
23 *Peter Ealer*,
24 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.

YEAS.

25 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
26 *John Moore*,
27 *Samuel Maclay*,
28 *John White*,
29 *John Baird*,
30 *James Barr*,
31 *James Alliſon*,
32 *Alexander Wright*,
33 *James Marſhall*,
34 *John Gilchreeſt*,
35 *James Finley*,
36 *James Johnſon*,
37 *John Rhea*,
38 *Jacob Reiff*,
39 *Benjamin Markley*,
40 *James Vaux*,
41 *Jacob Miley*,
42 *John Carſon*,
43 *James M'Creight*,
44 *David Stewart*,
45 *John Harris*,
46 *Hugh Lloyd*,
47 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
5 *Richard Thomas*,
6 *Richard Downing*, jun.

NAYS.

7 *Henry Dering*,
8 *John Miller*,
9 *Herman Huſband*,
10 *Jonathan Roberts*,
11 *Obadiah Gore*,
12 *John Nevil*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Maclay* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Vaux*, ſeconded by Mr. *Paul*,

Ordered, That not more than two Counſel be heard before this Houſe in behalf of *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, on *Monday* next.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *March* 22, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the reſolution paſſed *March* 19th, *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, attended at the bar of this Houſe, to anſwer for his conduct in writing a letter, directed to the Speaker, containing indecent and injurious reflections upon the character and conduct of *Conrad Ibrie*, junior, Eſquire, a member of this Houſe, in relation to his duty as a Repreſentative of the people; and he being called upon to anſwer whether he was ready to proceed in his defence, named Mr. *Ingerſol* and Mr. *Sergeant* as his Counſel.

Mr. *Ingerſol* then proceeded to ſpeak to the ſubject matter before the Houſe;

And after ſome time ſpent in hearing Counſel,

On motion,

Ordered, That *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, have leave to withdraw, and that he be directed to attend at the bar of this Houſe to-morrow, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 23, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Blackall William Ball*, late a lieutenant in the line of this ſtate, in the ſervice of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying the Houſe to direct payment of the intereſt already due, as well as to enable him to receive the intereſt from time to time, as the ſame may hereafter become due.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, was read, praying they may be re-annexed to the county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Upper Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, were read, praying they may not be re-annexed to the county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 9th, on the memorial of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, praying the aid of this Aſſembly in eſtabliſhing a cotton manufactory in the county aforeſaid, report—

That your committee, ſenſible of the laudable deſigns and exertions of the memorialiſts to encourage and promote the wealth and proſperity of the commonwealth, by eſtabliſhing and extending uſeful manufactures in the weſtern parts of the ſtate, do highly approve thereof; yet, notwithſtanding the apparent uſefulneſs of ſuch undertakings, and that a ſimilar inſtitution has met with the approbation and aſſiſtance of the Legiſlature heretofore, your committee are under the neceſſity to declare, that, from the preſent ſituation of the finances of the ſtate, they are of opinion that no aid can at this time be granted to the memorialiſts, for the purpoſes aforeſaid, and beg leave to ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the memorial of the ſubſcribers to a plan for erecting a manufactory of cotton in the county of *Cumberland*, praying for the aid of the Legiſlature, cannot at this time be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to " certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed " within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enforce the due collection of the revenues of this ſtate, and for other* "*purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *March* 6th, to take into their conſideration the preſent ſtate of the funds ariſing from militia fines in the ſeveral counties in this ſtate, and to confer with the Supreme Executive Council relative to the manner in which the act, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a board* "*of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations* "*in caſes of militia fines*," has been carried into execution, be diſcharged: Whereupon

Mr. *Gurney*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act*, "*entituled* " An Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral coun- " ties of this ſtate, and to grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines, " enacted the twenty-ſeventh day of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred " and eighty-nine," and, having obtained leave for the purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Daniel Rees*, read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Maclay*, to report thereon.

The memorial of the members of the *Hebrew* congregation of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sickle*, Mr. *Britton* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to report thereon.

The report on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York*, for and againſt a diviſion of ſaid county, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Clingan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following motion, as a ſubſtitute, *viz.*

Whereas a reſpectable number of the inhabitants of the weſtern part of *York* county have, by their petition to this Aſſembly, ſet forth, that they labour under very conſiderable difficulties and inconveniencies, in conſequence of their being obliged to attend at *York-Town* as their ſeat of juſtice, owing to the great diſtance many of them are from it, and the crouded ſituation of the docquet, whereby they are much difficulted to obtain juſtice, *&c.* and praying that they may be erected into a new and ſeparate county: And as it appears juſt and reaſonable that the prayer of the ſaid petitions ſhould be granted: Therefore

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to erect that part of *York* county included within the following lines into a ſeparate county; beginning on the line of *Cumberland* county, where the road leading from *Carliſle* acroſs *Dill*'s *Gap* interſects the ſaid line;

thence

thence a ſtraight courſe to the *Conewago creek*, oppoſite the mouth of *Abbot's run*; thence along ſaid run, ſo long as it continues the diviſion line between *Paradiſe* and *Berwick* townſhips; thence along the line of *Berwick*, until it ſtrikes the line of *Heidleberg* townſhip; thence ſouthward, ſo as to exclude *Hanover-Town*, to the line dividing *York* county from *Maryland*; thence weſt, along ſaid line, to the *Franklin* county line; thence along the ſaid line, to the line of *Cumberland* county, and along the ſame to the place of beginning.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Lilley*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *William Rawle,*
3 *Thomas Paul,*
4 *Thomas Britton,*
5 *Elias Boys,*
6 *James Bryan,*
7 *John M'Dowell,*
8 *Henry Dering,*
9 *James Cunningham,*
10 *Thomas Clingan,*
11 *Thomas Kennedy,*
12 *David Mitchell,*
13 *Jonathan Hoge,*
14 *John Moore,*
15 *Herman Huſband,*
16 *Samuel Maclay,*
17 *John Baird,*

YEAS.

18 *James Barr,*
19 *James Alliſon,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
22 *James Marſhall,*
23 *John Gilchreeſt,*
24 *James Finley,*
25 *James Johnſton,*
26 *John Rhea,*
27 *Jacob Miley,*
28 *James M'Creight,*
29 *Obadiah Gore,*
30 *David Stewart,*
31 *John Nevil,*
32 *John Harris,*
33 *Hugh Lloyd,*
34 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *Francis Gurney,*
3 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
4 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
5 *Valentine Upp,*
6 *John Chapman,*
7 *Richard Thomas,*
8 *Richard Downing*, jun.
9 *James Clemſon,*
10 *Jacob Erb,*
11 *John Miller,*
12 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
13 *John Stewart,*

NAYS.

14 *Thomas Lilley,*
15 *William Godfrey,*
16 *John Ludwig,*
17 *Nicholas Lutz,*
18 *Daniel Leinbach,*
19 *Peter Ealer,*
20 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
21 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
22 *Jacob Reiff,*
23 *Jonathan Roberts,*
24 *Benjamin Markley,*
25 *James Vaux.*

So it was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

The report on the petition of *George Ingels*, read *March* 16th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to amend the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading, boards and lumber.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe the ſale of the barracks in the* "*borough of* Lancaſter," was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act "to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to make proviſion for the repairs of* Mud- "Iſland," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the relief of* John Lytle, John Webb *and* William Murray;" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Sergeant-at-Arms attending at the bar with *Adam Stricker,* agreeably to the order of this Houſe, *March* 20th,

On motion of Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon,*

Ordered, That *Adam Stricker* be brought to the bar on *Thurſday* next, in the afternoon, and that he remain in cuſtody of the Sergeant-at-Arms in the mean time.

Agreeably to the order of yeſterday, *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, attended at the bar, and his Counſel being directed to proceed in their arguments in his defence;

After ſome time ſpent in hearing their arguments,

The Counſel in behalf of *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, requeſted, that he be permitted to ſhew that the remaining part of the paragraph contained in his letter to the Houſe of the 16th day of *March* is ſtrictly true, in aſſerting that the member (*Conrad Ihrie,* junior, Eſquire,) had become the inveterate enemy of the ſaid *John Nicholſon,* and that the cauſe of that enmity was the one aſſigned in that letter.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe hear the Counſel on the ſaid ſubject?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Boys,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*

YEAS.

4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Jonathan Hoge,*

YEAS.

7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *Nicholas Lutz,*
9 *Daniel Leinback,*
10 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
11 *John Moore,*
12 *Herman Huſband,*
13 *Samuel Maclay,*
14 *John Baird,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*

YEAS.

17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *James Marſhall,*
19 *John Gilchreeſt,*
20 *James Finley,*
21 *James Johnſton,*
22 *John Rhea,*
23 *Jacob Miley,*
24 *James M‘Creight,*
25 *Obadiah Gore,*
26 *John Nevil.*

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *William Rawle,*
5 *Francis Gurney,*
6 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
7 *Thomas Paul,*
8 *Thomas Britton,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *James Bryan,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *John M‘Dowell,*
15 *James Clemſon,*
16 *Henry Dering,*
17 *Jacob Erb,*

NAYS.

18 *John Miller,*
19 *Thomas Clingan,*
20 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
21 *John Stewart,*
22 *Thomas Lilley,*
23 *William Godfrey,*
24 *Peter Ealer,*
25 *John White,*
26 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
27 *Jacob Reiff,*
28 *Jonathan Roberts,*
29 *Benjamin Markley,*
30 *James Vaux,*
31 *John Carſon,*
32 *David Stewart,*
33 *Hugh Lloyd,*
34 *Richard Riley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

After ſome time the Counſel in behalf of *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, concluded: Whereupon,

On motion,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the further conſideration of the ſubject matter before the Houſe.

Ordered, That *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, have leave to withdraw, and that he be directed to attend at the bar of the Houſe on *Friday* next.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 24, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from His Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March 22d,* 1790.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to you, for the information of the General Aſſembly, a letter from His Excellency the Preſident of the United States, reſpecting the miſchiefs which have been done for ſeveral years paſt in the county of *Waſhington,* in this ſtate.

I have the honor to be,
With the greateſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the encloſure was alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Bucks* county were read, praying they may be exonerated from the payment of quit-rents, ſo far as they relate to the Proprietary tenths or manors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act in favour of* John Churchman," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed *German* Congregation in the borough of *Reading,* in the county of *Berks,* read *March* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Lutz,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for altering a certain clauſe in the charter of* "*the corporation for the relief of the widows and children of Clergymen of the* "*Proteſtant Epiſcopal church in the United States of* America," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The petition of the members of the religious ſociety called *Seventh-day Baptiſts,* and others on their behalf, read *March* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Riley,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Blackall William Ball,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Lloyd,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for compenſating* Laughlin M'Cartney, *and* "*others therein mentioned, for ſupplies by them furniſhed the civil officers of* "Northumberland *county in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-* "*five,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reduce the tax upon writs iſſued out of the* "*County Court of Common Pleas of* Philadelphia *county, during the time therein* "*limited,* was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for further enlarging the time limited by the* "*act, entituled* "An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of cre- "dit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and "for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time "for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of indepen- "dency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procur- "ing warrants for the lands by them occupied," was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee on the petitions of 895 inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin,* &c. read *March* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin,* read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Carſon,* Mr. *Harris* and Mr. *Lloyd,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Upper Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Downing,* and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas there appears to be a conſiderable difference between the ſtatement exhibited to a late Houſe of Aſſembly by the Comptroller-General of this ſtate, on the 4th day of *November,* 1788, and the ſtatement exhibited to this Houſe by the Regiſter-General on the 30th day of *September,* 1789, relative to certain bills of credit emitted by virtue of an act of Aſſembly enacted the firſt day of *June,* 1780, and an act of Aſſembly enacted the ſeventh day of *April,* 1781:

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be directed to enquire what number and amount of the ſaid bills remain unredeemed, and report ſpecially thereon to this Houſe.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Ealer* be added to the committee appointed *February* 12th, on that part of the meſſage of Council which reſpects the navigation of the rivers *Delaware, Schuylkill* and *Suſquehanna.*

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *William Buckley* and *Richard Wells* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles,*" and praying

ing the ſame may be reviſed, ſo far as reſpects the vending of ſhingles which they now have on hand.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reform the penal laws of this ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe the ſale of the barracks in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and the lot or lots on which they are erected, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 25, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was read, praying a ſum of money may be granted to repair the road leading from *Grubb*'s old furnace to his forge.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Sharp Delany,* Eſq; late Collector of the cuſtoms of this ſtate, was preſented to the chair, and read, ſtating, that the letter from the Comptroller-General of the 15th inſtant, charging him with being "*much in arrear with his accounts,*" is erroneous; and requeſting this Houſe to direct the committee of accounts, or any other committee they may think proper to appoint, to hear him and the Comptroller-General on the ſaid ſubject; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Gurney,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

To refer the ſaid letter, together with the letter from the Comptroller-General, to the committee of accounts.

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſaid letters be referred to the committee of accounts?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The report on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Bedford* county, read *March* 17th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners of the county of *Bedford,* praying for an exoneration from militia fines, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion made *March* 23d, by Mr. *Clingan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,* reſpecting a diviſion of the county of *York.*

A motion was then made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lloyd,*

To poſtpone the ſaid motion, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the conſideration of the motion before the Houſe be poſtponed, and that the Clerk of this Houſe cauſe a copy of the reſolution propoſed in the ſaid motion to be printed, for the ſpace of two months, ſucceſſively, in the news-paper publiſhed in the borough of *York,* and alſo in the news-paper publiſhed in the borough of *Carliſle;* to the end that the people intereſted therein may be notified thereof, and give to the Houſe the neceſſary information on the ſubject, at their next ſeſſion.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-" ſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The reſolution contained in the motion made by Mr. *Clingan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*, being then under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to erect that part of *York* county included within the following lines into a ſeparate county; beginning on the line of *Cumberland* county, where the road leading from *Carliſle* acroſs *Dill's Gap* interſects the ſaid line; thence a ſtraight courſe to the *Conewago creek*, oppoſite the mouth of *Abbot*'s *run*; thence along ſaid run, ſo long as it continues the diviſion line between *Paradiſe* and *Berwick* townſhips; thence along the line of *Berwick*, until it ſtrikes the line of *Heidleberg* townſhip; thence ſouthward, ſo as to exclude *Hanover-Town*, to the line dividing *York* county from *Maryland*; thence weſt, along ſaid line, to the *Franklin* county line; thence along the ſaid line to the line of *Cumberland* county, and along the ſame to the place of beginning.

On the queſtion, —" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Clingan*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *William Rawle*,
3 *Thomas Britton*,
4 *Elias Boys*,
5 *James Bryan*,
6 *John M'Dowell*,
7 *Henry Dering*,
8 *James Cunningham*,
9 *Thomas Clingan*,
10 *Thomas Kennedy*,
11 *David Mitchell*,
12 *Jonathan Hoge*,
13 *John Moore*,
14 *Herman Huſband*,
15 *Samuel Maclay*,
16 *John Baird*,

YEAS.

17 *James Barr*,
18 *James Alliſon*,
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *Thomas Ryerſon*,
21 *James Marſhall*,
22 *John Gilchreeſt*,
23 *James Finley*,
24 *James Johnſton*,
25 *John Rhea*,
26 *Jacob Miley*,
27 *James M'Creight*,
28 *David Stewart*,
29 *John Nevil*,
30 *John Harris*,
31 *Hugh Lloyd*,
32 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Francis Gurney*,
3 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
4 *Thomas Paul*,
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *Richard Thomas*,
9 *Richard Downing*, jun.
10 *James Clemſon*,
11 *Jacob Erb*,

NAYS.

12 *John Miller*,
13 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
14 *John Stewart*,
15 *Thomas Lilley*,
16 *William Godfrey*,
17 *John Ludwig*,
18 *Nicholas Lutz*,
19 *Daniel Leinbach*,
20 *Peter Ealer*,
21 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
22 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.

NAYS.
23 *John White,*
24 *Jacob Reiff,*
25 *Jonathan Roberts,*
26 *Benjamin Markley,*

NAYS.
27 *James Vaux,*
28 *John Carſon,*
29 *Obadiah Gore.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clingan,* Mr. *J. Stewart* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſoluiton.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act for aſ-" certaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* " the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the act, entituled " *An Act* " *for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim-" ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other* " *purpoſes therein mentioned,*" be, and the ſame is hereby repealed; and all proceedings had under ſaid act are hereby rendered void, and declared to be null and of no effect, as if ſaid act had never been enacted, any thing in the ſame to the contrary notwithſtanding.

It was moved by Mr. *Gurney,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gore,*

To inſert, after the word " *That,*" the words " *ſo much of;*" and after the words " *therein mentioned,*" the following, *viz.* " *as reſpects lands, the* " *titles to which were derived under warrants or grants to* Pennſylvania Claim-" ants, *dated before the decree of the court of the United States at* Trenton."

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell,*

To inſert, after the words " *of no effect,*" the following, *viz.* " *and all* " *titles and claims which might be ſuppoſed to be affected by ſaid act are hereby* " *re-veſted in the former owners, in as full and ample a manner,*"'——

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Baird,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *Francis Gurney,*
2 *Thomas Paul,*
3 *Thomas Britton,*
4 *Elias Boys,*
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
6 *Valentine Upp,*
7 *John Chapman,*
8 *James Bryan,*
9 *John M'Dowell,*
10 *James Clemſon,*
11 *James Cunningham,*
12 *Jacob Erb,*

YEAS.
13 *John Miller,*
14 *Thomas Clingan,*
15 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
16 *John Stewart,*
17 *Thomas Lilley,*
18 *William Godfrey,*
19 *Thomas Kennedy,*
20 *David Mitchell,*
21 *Jonathan Hoge,*
22 *John Ludwig,*
23 *Nicholas Lutz,*
24 *Daniel Leinbach,*

YEAS.

25 *Peter Ealer*,
26 *Conrad Ibrie*, jun.
27 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
28 *John Moore*,
29 *Herman Huſband*,
30 *Samuel Maclay*,
31 *John White*,
32 *John Baird*,
33 *James Barr*,
34 *James Alliſon*,
35 *Alexander Wright*,
36 *James Marſhall*,

YEAS.

37 *John Gilchreeſt*,
38 *James Johnſon*,
39 *John Rhea*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *James Vaux*,
42 *Jacob Miley*,
43 *John Carſon*,
44 *James M'Creight*,
45 *David Stewart*,
46 *John Harris*,
47 *Hugh Lloyd*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
5 *Richard Thomas*,
6 *Richard Downing*, jun.
7 *Thomas Ryerſon*,

NAYS.

8 *James Finley*,
9 *Jonathan Roberts*,
10 *Benjamin Markley*,
11 *Obadiah Gore*,
12 *John Nevil*,
13 *Richard Riley*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the clauſe, as amended?*"—viz.

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the act, entituled "*An Act* "*for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim-" ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other* "*purpoſes therein mentioned*," be, and the ſame is hereby repealed; and all proceedings had under ſaid act are hereby rendered void, and declared to be null and of no effect; and all titles and claims which might be ſuppoſed to be affected by ſaid act are hereby re-veſted in the former owners, in as full and ample a manner as if ſaid act had never been enacted, any thing in the ſame to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Gore* and Mr. *Marſhall*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Francis Gurney*,
2 *Thomas Paul*,
3 *Thomas Britton*,
4 *Elias Boys*,
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *James Bryan*,
8 *John M'Dowell*,
9 *James Clemſon*,
10 *James Cunningham*,

YEAS.

11 *Jacob Erb*,
12 *John Miller*,
13 *Thomas Clingan*,
14 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
15 *John Stewart*,
16 *Thomas Lilley*,
17 *William Godfrey*,
18 *Thomas Kennedy*,
19 *David Mitchell*,
20 *Jonathan Hoge*,

YEAS.

21 *John Ludwig*,
22 *Nicholas Lutz*,
23 *Daniel Leinbach*,
24 *Peter Ealer*,
25 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
26 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
27 *John Moore*,
28 *Samuel Maclay*,
29 *John White*,
30 *John Baird*,
31 *James Barr*,
32 *James Alliſon*,
33 *Alexander Wright*,
34 *Thomas Ryerſon*,

YEAS.

35 *James Marſhall*,
36 *John Gilchreeſt*,
37 *James Finley*,
38 *James Johnſon*,
39 *John Rhea*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *Benjamin Markley*,
42 *James Vaux*,
43 *Jacob Miley*,
44 *John Carſon*,
45 *James M'Creight*,
46 *David Stewart*,
47 *John Harris*,
48 *Hugh Lloyd*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
5 *Richard Thomas*,

NAYS.

6 *Richard Downing*, jun.
7 *Jonathan Roberts*,
8 *Obadiah Gore*,
9 *John Nevil*,
10 *Richard Riley*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the Houſe, *Adam Stricker* was brought to the bar by the Sergeant-at-Arms; and being called upon to anſwer whether he was ready to proceed in his defence, named Mr. *Fiſher* and Mr. *Sergeant* as his Counſel.

The Houſe then heard the Counſel in behalf of the priſoner.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux*, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the Legiſlature of this ſtate is *conſtitutionally* inveſted with all the powers "neceſſary for the Legiſlature of a free ſtate, or commonwealth:"

Reſolved, That the power of protecting its members from arreſts during a ſeſſion, and in going to and returning from the ſame, in all caſes, except treaſon, felony, and *breach of the peace*, is neceſſary for the Legiſlature of a free ſtate, and is therefore veſted in the Legiſlature of this ſtate.

Reſolved, That this Houſe, being inveſted with ſuch powers in truſt only for the benefit of the people repreſented in the Legiſlature, and to ſecure their happineſs and ſafety, ought at no time to prevent the courſe of public juſtice, or ſupport any of its members in oppoſition *thereto*; and, upon petition from any perſon aggrieved, *will*, if the caſe ſhall ſo require, grant leave to proceed at law againſt any ſuch members.

Reſolved, That *Conrad Ihrie*, junior, Eſquire, a member of this Houſe, having been arreſted during the ſeſſion, not being charged with treaſon, felony, or a breach of the peace, and without application to this Houſe for leave to proceed againſt him, be forthwith diſcharged from ſuch arreſt; and that the Speaker of the Houſe do write a letter to the Sheriff of the county of *Philadelphia*, ſignifying the pleaſure of the Houſe in the premiſes.

Reſolved, That *Adam Stricker* be diſcharged from the cuſtody of the Sergeant-at-Arms. Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wright*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the above reſolutions.

On the queſtion,

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Rhea*, ſeconded by Mr. *Finley*,

To adjourn.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 26, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 24th, on the ſeveral petitions of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions ſigned by a number of the inhabitants of *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, for and againſt the ſaid townſhips being re-annexed to *Northumberland* county, report——

That they do not find any thing in the ſaid petitions, that induces them to alter their opinions ſtated in their late report on the ſame ſubject: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners from *Potter*'s and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin*, for and againſt the ſaid townſhips being re-annexed to *Northumberland* county, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for erecting part of the county of* York *into a ſeparate county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, reſpecting the accounts of *Conrad Ihrie*, Eſq; was read, with ſundry encloſures, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Sharp Delany*, Eſq; late Collector of the Cuſtoms of this ſtate, was read, ſtating certain contradictory aſſertions contained in the letter from the Comptroller-General of the 15th inſtant, charging ſaid *Delany* with being much in arrear with his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion made yeſterday by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux*, recurring, agreeably to order; and the following reſolution being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the power of protecting its members from arreſts during a ſeſſion, and in going to and returning from the ſame, in all caſes, except treaſon, felony, and *breach of the peace,* is neceſſary for the Legiſlature of a free ſtate, and is therefore veſted in the Legiſlature of this ſtate.

A motion was made by Mr. *Finley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Baird,* to inſert, after the word " *breach,*" the words " *and ſurety.*"

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the amendment ?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Gurney* and Mr. *Ryerſon,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Thomas Clingan,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Daniel Leinbach,*
11 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
12 *John Moore,*
13 *Herman Huſband,*
14 *Samuel Maclay,*
15 *John Baird,*
16 *James Barr,*
17 *James Alliſon,*
18 *Alexander Wright,*
19 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
20 *James Marſhall,*
21 *John Gilchreeſt,*
22 *James Finley,*
23 *James Johnſon,*
24 *John Rhea,*
25 *Jacob Miley,*
26 *James M'Creight,*
27 *John Nevil,*
28 *John Harris.*

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Rawle,*
4 *Francis Gurney,*
5 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
6 *Thomas Paul,*
7 *Thomas Britton,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *James Bryan,*
11 *Richard Thomas,*
12 *Richard Downing,* jun.
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *James Clemſon,*
15 *Henry Dering,*
16 *Jacob Erb,*
17 *John Miller,*
18 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
19 *John Stewart,*
20 *Thomas Lilley,*
21 *William Godfrey,*
22 *Peter Ealer,*
23 *John White,*
24 *Jacob Reiff,*
25 *Jonathan Roberts,*
26 *Benjamin Markley,*
27 *James Vaux,*
28 *John Carſon,*
29 *Obadiah Gore,*
30 *David Stewart,*
31 *Hugh Lloyd,*
32 *Richard Riley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the original reſolution?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Vaux,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Rawle,*
4 *Francis Gurney,*
5 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
6 *Thomas Paul,*

YEAS.

7 *Thomas Britton,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *James Bryan,*
11 *Richard Thomas,*
12 *Richard Downing,* jun.
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *James Clemſon,*
15 *Henry Dering,*
16 *Jacob Erb,*
17 *John Miller,*
18 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
19 *John Stewart,*
20 *Thomas Lilley,*

YEAS.

21 *William Godfrey,*
22 *Peter Eater,*
23 *John White,*
24 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Jonathan Roberts,*
27 *Benjamin Markley,*
28 *James Vaux,*
29 *John Carſon,*
30 *Obadiah Gore,*
31 *David Stewart,*
32 *Hugh Lloyd,*
33 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Thomas Clingan,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Daniel Leinbach,*
11 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
12 *John Moore,*
13 *Herman Huſband,*
14 *Samuel Maclay,*

NAYS.

15 *John Baird,*
16 *James Barr,*
17 *James Alliſon,*
18 *Alexander Wright,*
19 *James Marſhall,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *James Finley,*
22 *James Johnſon,*
23 *John Rhea,*
24 *Jacob Miley,*
25 *James M'Creight,*
26 *John Nevil,*
27 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The ſecond reſolution being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe, being inveſted with ſuch powers in truſt only for the benefit of the people repreſented in the Legiſlature, and to ſecure their happineſs and ſafety, ought at no time to prevent the courſe of public juſtice, or ſupport any of its members in oppoſition *thereto*; and, upon petition from any perſon aggrieved, *will,* if the caſe ſhall ſo require, grant leave to proceed at law againſt any ſuch members.

It was moved by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Paul,*

To inſert, after the word "*will,*" the words "*as a matter of right.*"

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *D. Stewart* and Mr. *Thomas,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Rawle,*
4 *Francis Gurney,*

YEAS.

5 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
6 *Thomas Paul,*
7 *Thomas Britton,*
8 *Elias Boys,*

YEAS.

9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *James Bryan,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Richard Downing,* jun.
15 *John M'Dowell,*
16 *James Clemſon,*
17 *Henry Dering,*
18 *James Cunningham,*
19 *Jacob Erb,*
20 *John Miller,*
21 *Thomas Clingan,*
22 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
23 *John Stewart,*
24 *Thomas Lilley,*
25 *William Godfrey,*
26 *Thomas Kennedy,*
27 *Jonathan Hoge,*
28 *John Ludwig,*
29 *Nicholas Lutz,*
30 *Daniel Leinbach,*
31 *Peter Ealer,*
32 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.

YEAS.

33 *John Moore,*
34 *Herman Huſband,*
35 *John White,*
36 *John Baird,*
37 *James Alliſon,*
38 *Alexander Wright,*
39 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
40 *James Marſhall,*
41 *John Gilchreeſt,*
42 *James Johnſon,*
43 *Jacob Reiff,*
44 *Jonathan Roberts,*
45 *Benjamin Markley,*
46 *James Vaux,*
47 *Jacob Miley,*
48 *John Carſon,*
49 *James M'Creight,*
50 *Obadiah Gore,*
51 *David Stewart,*
52 *John Nevil,*
53 *John Harris,*
54 *Hugh Lloyd,*
55 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Samuel Maclay,*

NAYS.

3 *James Barr,*
4 *John Rhea.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Rhea,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

To take two ſeparate queſtions on the ſaid reſolution, in manner following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe, being inveſted with ſuch powers in truſt only for the benefit of the people repreſented in the Legiſlature, and to ſecure their happineſs and ſafety, ought at no time to prevent the courſe of public juſtice, or ſupport any of its members in oppoſition thereto.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the firſt part of the ſaid reſolution?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſecond part of the ſaid reſolution?*"—*viz.*

And, upon petition from any perſon aggrieved, will, as a matter of right, if the caſe ſhall ſo require, grant leave to proceed at law againſt any ſuch members.

The Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Gurney,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Rawle,*

YEAS.

4 *Francis Gurney,*
5 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
6 *Thomas Paul,*

YEAS.

7 *Thomas Britton,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *James Bryan,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *John M‘Dowell,*
15 *James Clemſon,*
16 *Henry Dering,*
17 *Jacob Erb,*
18 *John Miller,*
19 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
20 *John Stewart,*
21 *Thomas Lilley,*

YEAS.

22 *William Godfrey,*
23 *Peter Ealer,*
24 *John White,*
25 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
26 *Jacob Reiff,*
27 *Jonathan Roberts,*
28 *Benjamin Markley,*
29 *James Vaux,*
30 *Jacob Miley,*
31 *John Carſon,*
32 *James M‘Creight,*
33 *Obadiah Gore,*
34 *David Stewart,*
35 *Hugh Lloyd,*
36 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *James Cunningham,*
3 *Thomas Clingan,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Jonathan Hoge,*
7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *Nicholas Lutz,*
9 *Daniel Leinbach,*
10 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
11 *John Moore,*
12 *Herman Huſband,*

NAYS.

13 *Samuel Maclay,*
14 *John Baird,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *James Marſhall,*
19 *John Gilchreeſt,*
20 *James Finley,*
21 *James Johnſon,*
22 *John Rhea,*
23 *John Nevil,*
24 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wright,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the third reſolution contained in the ſaid motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux,* in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the privileges of members of the Legiſlature ſhall not henceforward extend to prevent ſureties of the peace being required of ſuch members, for matters ariſing after the end of any ſeſſion thereof, or where, for want of information, the party could not make application to the Houſe while in ſeſſion.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-* “ *ſaid purpoſe?*”

It was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

The third reſolution then recurring, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Conrad Ihrie,* junior, Eſquire, a member of this Houſe, having been arreſted during this ſeſſion, not being charged with treaſon, felony, or a breach of the peace, and without application to this Houſe for leave to proceed againſt him, be forthwith diſcharged from ſuch arreſt; and that the Speaker of the Houſe do write a letter to the Sheriff of the county of *Philadelphia,* ſignifying the pleaſure of the Houſe in the premiſes.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Rhea* and Mr. *Maſhall*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Rawle,*
4 *Francis Gurney,*
5 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
6 *Thomas Paul,*
7 *Thomas Britton,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *James Bryan,*
11 *Richard Thomas,*
12 *Richard Downing,* jun.
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *James Clemſon,*
15 *Henry Dering,*
16 *Jacob Erb,*
17 *John Miller,*

YEAS.

18 *Thomas Clingan,*
19 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
20 *John Stewart,*
21 *Thomas Lilley,*
22 *William Godfrey,*
23 *Peter Ealer,*
24 *John White,*
25 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
26 *Jacob Reiff,*
27 *Jonathan Roberts,*
28 *Benjamin Markley,*
29 *James Vaux,*
30 *John Carſon,*
31 *Obadiah Gore,*
32 *David Stewart,*
33 *Hugh Lloyd,*
34 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Jonathan Hoge,*
7 *John Ludwig,*
8 *Nicholas Lutz,*
9 *Daniel Leinbach,*
10 *Anthony Lerch,* jun.
11 *John Moore,*
12 *Herman Huſband,*
13 *Samuel Maclay,*

NAYS.

14 *John Baird,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *James Marſhall,*
19 *John Gilchreſt,*
20 *James Finley,*
21 *James Johnſon,*
22 *John Rhea,*
23 *Jacob Miley,*
24 *James M'Creight,*
25 *John Nevil,*
26 *John Harris.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Reſolved, That *Adam Stricker* be diſcharged from the cuſtody of the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Which was accordingly done.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the Houſe of the 23d inſtant, *John Nicholſon,* Eſq; appearing at the bar,

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux,* in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved,

Reſolved, That *John Nicholſon,* Eſq; ſtanding at the bar of this Houſe, be reprimanded by the Speaker for his conduct, in imputing to a member of the Houſe, acting in the diſcharge of the duties of his ſtation, motives ſuppoſed to ariſe from perſonal enmity; and, in conſideration that the ſaid *John Nicholſon* hath ſince declared that he intended no diſreſpect thereby to the Houſe, that he be diſcharged without further proceedings.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Kennedy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next, in the afternoon, and that it be the order for that day.

REASONS of DISSENT.

1ſt. BECAUSE we apprehend that the peace of the commonwealth, and the protection of the citizens in their perſons and property from violence, is the firſt law of ſociety, the great end for which government was inſtituted, and the primary object of all municipal regulations; that no Legiſlature therefore has the right, and, as we believe, none before the preſent ever aſſumed the power, of holding themſelves exempt from the rule of peaceable demeanor to their fellow-citizens, on which the exiſtence of the community depends, and which extends alike to the higheſt citizen and the loweſt, without any difference or exception; that the diſtinction, now arbitrarily made by this Houſe, between an actual breach of the peace by a member of Aſſembly, and the demand of ſurety of the peace from ſuch member, on a well-grounded apprehenſion of danger, ſupported by ſufficient teſtimony on oath, in our opinions, is not warranted either by reaſon or law. In point of reaſon, we are convinced that the actual breach of the peace, by a blow, is many times the effect of ſudden infirmity, and is repented of as ſoon as committed; whereas that lurking malice, which ſometimes detects itſelf by threats, and ſometimes by other circumſtances, is often more dangerous to the community, and more alarming to the individual, eſpecially if it ſhould be diſcovered in a man of a known miſchievous diſpoſition. As the reſolutions of the Houſe now ſtand, the ſlighteſt aſſault, the raſhneſs of a moment, ſhall ouſt the member of privilege; and yet, if the member ſtand detected in an attempt to burn a houſe, or to commit murder, even by poiſon, the pretended privilege of this Houſe will protect him, until the Houſe is petitioned for leave to the magiſtrate to prevent miſchief. We are by no means convinced that theſe difficulties are obviated by that part of the reſolutions, which declares "that the Houſe, upon petition from any per-" "ſon aggrieved, will, as a matter of right, if the caſe ſhall ſo require, grant" "leave to proceed at law againſt any ſuch members;" for, beſides that the danger may in ſome caſes be ſo imminent and ſudden, that there will not be time for an application to the Houſe, as, for inſtance, in the night-time, or in the interval of an adjournment, we cannot but add, that the reſolution, at the ſame time that it ſpeaks of the Houſe granting leave, "as a" "matter of right," by adding the words, "if the caſe ſhall ſo require," reduces it at laſt to a matter of diſcretion, which it is in the power of the Houſe to grant or refuſe; and we cannot apprehend that the citizens of this ſtate hold their right of protection from the laws, to their perſons and property, at the will even of the Houſe of Aſſembly, eſpecially when we reflect that hereafter, under the new conſtitution, one branch, the half or the third part of the Legiſlature, may be led, from the precedent now ſet, to claim and exerciſe the ſame diſcretionary power over the lives and property of their fellow-citizens; and no man at this day can poſſibly foreſee to what degrees of wanton abuſe this precedent may be extended in time to come.—There is hardly any thing ſo ridiculous, or ſo wicked, as not to find its parallel among the inſtances of privilege claimed and exerciſed by the *Engliſh* Houſes of Parliament; nor is there any thing too horrible to be feared, in future times, from a power of acting at diſcretion, under the impulſes of party rage and faction, which are too apt to prevail in a free commonwealth.

We believe the diſcretionary power, now for the firſt time aſſumed by the Houſe, of extending, or refuſing privilege, upon the ſpur of the occaſion, may be a dangerous ſource of corruption in the Legiſlature, and deſtroy the independence of its members. In the exerciſe of this authority the virtuous may be given up to improper and vexatious ſuits, even in civil caſes, when at a diſtance from home; or the unprincipled and violent may be ſcreened from juſtice, to the terror of the citizens, according as it may promote the deſigns or ſerve the intereſts of a majority.

In point of law, we apprehend that the queſtion is plain and eaſy. Our Legiſlature very early adopted the common law of *England*, which, adverting to the great law of ſociety already mentioned, in the fulleſt and cleareſt terms entitles the ſubject to protection from violence, either threatened or juſtly feared, whether from members of the Legiſlature or from others; and we accordingly find that, in *Great-Britain*, Peers of the realm and members of the Houſe of Commons are, and ever have been, held to give ſurety of the peace, as often as it is legally required, without any interruption from the claim of privilege; and we find their Judges invariably ſtating the law to be, that there is no privilege of Parliament in any caſe, where ſurety of the peace is required. In that country we are convinced that the claims of privilege, at leaſt in former times, have been carried quite too far; and yet no inſtance has been adduced to ſhew, that either the Houſe of Lords or the Houſe of Commons in *England* has ever interpoſed, to prevent their members from being arreſted in any one of that multitude of caſes wherein ſurety of the peace has been required. We wiſh not to carry our claims further on this head, than they have carried theirs. We cannot conſent to deprive our fellow-citizens of the benefit of the common law, or to unhinge what we conſider as the fundamental principle of ſociety, by deſtroying that right of peace and ſecurity, which belongs to every man in a ſtate of government. And we proteſt againſt the preſent reſolutions of the Houſe, which, as far as they can do, have deſtroyed the protection of the citizen, and have reſcued a member of this Houſe from the hands of the law, leaving him at liberty to execute his threats of violence againſt a fellow-citizen, and leaving that citizen ſtripped of the protection of the law, and ſubject to thoſe very evils and dangers, which men left the ſtate of nature and joined together in ſociety to avoid. We dread the effects of wrong precedents and pernicious examples. We think it our duty to bear our teſtimony againſt them, and to convince thoſe who are to follow us, that we have not joined in the claim now aſſerted by a majority of this Houſe, the claim of a privilege of doing miſchief without the power of controul or prevention by law.

2d. We think the idea of a petition being neceſſary to be preſented to the Houſe, and ſubmitted to their diſcretion, previous to the exacting ſecurity of the peace from a member, is a novelty; and therefore, beſides the objections already ſtated, may be conſidered as ariſing after the fact. Few people, in this enlightened age, need to be warned of the dangerous nature of *ex poſt facto* laws. The conſtitution of the United States expreſly forbids any one of the ſtates to enact laws *ex poſt facto*, and the whole world ſeems convinced of their unreaſonableneſs and injuſtice. Yet this Houſe, by introducing a new rule after the fact, have condemned a proceeding, which, at the time of the fact, was juſt and right, and perfectly conſonant to law. And the Judge who iſſued the warrant in the preſent caſe, by a rule made now for the firſt time, after the iſſuing of the warrant, is, in effect, declared to have done wrong in obeying his oath of office, which requires him to decide according to the known law of the land. If the rule were ever ſo juſt and proper (which we nevertheleſs ſolemnly deny) yet it ought not to have retroſpected to the preſent meaſure. For this reaſon alſo we diſſent. And we cannot but add, that we think it more eſpecially our duty to be thus plain and full in proteſting againſt theſe meaſures, and in ſtating our reaſons for ſo doing, at a time when the right of enquiring into, and complaining of, and petitioning, and remonſtrating againſt the proceedings in this Houſe, by the people out of the Houſe (a right we conſider as moſt ſacredly confirmed to every citizen by the expreſs words of the conſtitution) is brought into queſtion; ſo that many worthy citizens, who are not members of this Houſe, may be diſcouraged from exerciſing that freedom of ſpeaking, and writing, and printing on the proceedings of the government, which the conſtitution requires of them as their duty.

Thomas Kennedy,
John Rhea,
John Gilchreeſt,
John Ludwig,
James Finley,
David Mitchell,
James Barr,
Samuel Maclay,
John Baird,
John Nevil,
James Marſhall,
John Moore,
Alexander Wright,
Valentine Upp,
Jonathan Hoge,
James Alliſon,
James Cunningham,
James Johnſon,
John Harris,
Daniel Leinbach.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 27, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Lewis Prahl* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 31ſt laſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Upp* and Mr. *Gore*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 12th, on that part of the Meſſage from Council, which reſpects the navigation of the rivers *Delaware*, *Schuylkill* and *Suſquehanna*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the Meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to the reports of the

Commiſſioners appointed to view the *Delaware*, the *Schuylkill* and the *Suſquehanna*, in purſuance of the act of Aſſembly enacted the twenty-eighth day of *September* laſt, beg leave to report,——

That the ſurveys directed appear to have been made with great care, accuracy and judgment, and upon the whole to warrant the inference that the waters of thoſe rivers may, in general, be rendered navigable, with as little difficulty and expence as thoſe of any rivers in the United States: But it appears to the committee to be expedient, previous to proceeding in the execution of any part of the great deſign propoſed by the Legiſlature, that proper meaſures ſhould be taken to aſcertain the moſt practicable communication between the eaſtern and weſtern limits of the ſtate. The Commiſſioners appointed were, from the directions of the law, confined to the inveſtigation of the navigable waters of the *Delaware*, the *Schuylkill*, and the *Suſquehanna*, and the ſtreams which communicated with them.

The reſolution which the committee will propoſe is calculated to obtain a clear and ſatisfactory knowledge of thoſe internal parts of the ſtate, hitherto unexplored for theſe purpoſes; to aſcertain the moſt convenient and practicable place for connecting the waters of the rivers already mentioned with the *Allegheny*, *Lake Ontario* and *Lake Erie*; and, in caſes where portage by land will be neceſſary, to examine the face of the country, and report the moſt ſuitable places for landings and roads.

Ths ſtate of *Pennſylvania* appears to the committee not only to be calculated, from its natural advantages, for thoſe improvements which will facilitate its internal commerce, and promote the wealth and population of its territory, but to be the probable grand channel of future communication between the eaſtern and weſtern extremities of the United States: And hence it is conceived, that to neglect the acquiſition of proper materials for the formation of a general plan, upon the moſt liberal principles within the abilities of the commonwealth, would be inconſiſtent both with our intereſt and our reputation.

The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and requeſted to appoint ſuitable and ſkilful perſons Commiſſioners, who ſhall proceed, as ſoon as may be, to the head of the *Quitapahilla*, and from thence ſhall proceed to the *Swatara*, and down the *Swatara* to the *Suſquehanna*; then, paſſing over that part of the *Suſquehanna* which has been already examined by the Commiſſioners herein before mentioned, they ſhall aſcend to the mouth of the *Juniata*, where they ſhall re-commence the examination propoſed, and proceed up the *Suſquehanna* to *Sunbury*, and thence up the weſt branch to *Cinnamahoning*, and up the ſame to the *Canoe Place* (ſo called) or ſuch place on the main branch or the weſt branch of *Cinnamahoning*, as will connect moſt eaſily with any practicable branch of the *Allegheny*, the *Conſua*, *Toby*'s creek, or any other which may diſcharge itſelf into the *Allegheny* neareſt to the mouth of *French* creek; and thence examine *French* creek up to *Le Bœuff*, and the portage to *Preſque Iſle*; that ſuch Commiſſioners thence return down the *Allegheny*, and examine the ſame from the mouth of *French* creek to the *Kiſkemenetas*, and up the *Kiſkemenetas* to the *Conemaugh*, and up the *Conemaugh* to its forks with *Stony-creek*, and from the ſame, by the neareſt branches which can be improved by canal or lock navigation, to the ſhorteſt portage which may be found to the *Frank*'s-*town* branch of *Juniata*, at

or

or near the mouth of *Poplar* run, where *Patrick Caſſady* now lives, and down the *Frank*'s-*town* branch of *Juniata* to the head of *Water-ſtreet*, where the Commiſſioners of laſt year concluded the report of their work.

That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be alſo authoriſed and requeſted to appoint other ſuitable and ſkilful men to explore the country, and aſcertain the beſt road and ſhorteſt diſtance from the *Delaware*, near the forks of the *Mohawk* and *Popaughton* branches, to the great bend on the *Suſquehanna*, and thence proceed down the *Suſquehanna* to the mouth of *Tioga*, and from thence to the junction of the eaſt and weſt branches of *Suſquehanna*; that on their return from thence, the ſaid commiſſioners be directed to explore the *Lehigh*, from its head to the *Turn-hole*; and alſo to examine and explore the *Tobehanna* and the *Schuylkill*, from *Hamburgh*, where the commiſſioners before mentioned concluded their work, to the mouth of *Tamaguay*, or little *Schuylkill*, as far as good raft navigation may be ſuppoſed to extend.

That for the purpoſe of defraying the expences of ſuch examinations and ſurveys, the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, not exceeding the ſum of to be charged to the fund, in and by the act of Aſſembly before mentioned appropriated for claims and improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An "Act to authoriſe and direct the ſale of the lands therein mentioned, and for "other purpoſes*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz*.

An Additional SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers*.

An ACT *to provide for the ſafety of the records of the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*.

An ACT *for the relief of* John Lytle, John Webb *and* William Murray.

An ACT *to provide for the more effectual relief of the widows and children of the officers and privates of the militia, who have loſt their lives in the ſervice of their country*.

An ACT *for compenſating* Laughlin M'Cartney, *and others therein mentioned, for ſupplies by them furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five*.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act for erecting the "ſouth-weſtern part of the county of *Cumberland* into a ſeparate county.

An ACT *in favour of* Reading Howell, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*.

An ACT *to authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners, to audit and ſettle the accounts between* Bedford *and* Huntingdon *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*.

A Further SUPPLEMENT *to the act of Aſſembly, entituled* "An "Act for the relief of inſolvent debtors within the province of *Pennſylva-"nia*."

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petitions of 895 inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin*, &c. poſtponed *March* 24th: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer to be re-annexed to *Northumberland* county, contained in the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Potter's* and *Bald-Eagle* townſhips, in the county of *Mifflin,* ought not at this time to be granted.

Reſolved, That the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Mifflin* county, and part of *Greenwood* townſhip, in *Cumberland* county, praying for a removal of the ſeat of juſtice in ſaid county of *Mifflin,* ought not to be granted; and that they, together with the petitioners mentioned in the laſt preceding reſolution, have leave to withdraw their petitions.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for appointing an additional Truſtee for erecting a court-houſe and priſon in and for the county of *Mifflin.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Carſon,* Mr. *Harris* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the ſaid reſolution.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act to eſta- “ bliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to “ grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines,” was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act* “ *for further enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* “ An Act for “ facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one “ thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the “ funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting lands “ which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giv- “ ing a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for “ the lands by them occupied;” and the ſame having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to enforce the due collection of the revenues* “ *of this ſtate, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, March 29, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act for appointing an additional Truſtee for the county of* Mifflin,” which “ was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Buckley* and *Richard Wells*, read *March* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read *March* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Leinbach* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Mary Harriſon*, poſtponed *March* 18th: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Mary Harriſon* be complied with, and that ſhe have leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſes ſet forth in ſaid petition, provided the rate of exchange ſhall not exceed *one hundred and ſixty-ſix pounds thirteen ſhillings and four-pence* currency for *one hundred pounds* ſterling.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of the corporation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St. *John*, in the borough of *York*, poſtponed *December* 7th laſt: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable the perſons therein mentioned to raiſe the ſum of   by a lottery, for the purpoſe of compleating the parſonage-houſe and academy of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St. *John*, in the borough of *York*, and that the ſaid bill contain a proviſo, that the right of mortgaging the ſaid parſonage-houſe ſhall not be thereby affected.

Ordered, That the members from *York* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Carpenters Company of* "Philadelphia," was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Mr. *D. Stewart*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for ap-* "*pointing two additional truſtees for the county of* Huntingdon," and, having obtained leave for that purpoſe, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Con-* "*gregation of St.* James's *Church, in the borough of* Briſtol, *and county of* "Bucks," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to make proviſion for repairs at* Mud-Iſland," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reduce the tax upon writs iſſued out of the* "*County Court of Common Pleas of* Philadelphia *county, during the time therein* "*limited*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The report on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Moreland*, *Cheltenham*, *Abington* and *Springfield* townſhips, in the county of *Montgomery*, read *March* 17th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That leave be given to withdraw the petitions ſigned by a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moreland, Cheltenham, Abington* and *Springfield,* in the county of *Montgomery,* praying that the ſaid townſhips may be annexed to the county of *Philadelphia.*

The report on the petition of *Francis White,* read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Francis White* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for further enlarging the time limited by the " act, entituled* " An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of " credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, " and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the " time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of in- " dependency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for " procuring warrants for the lands by them occupied," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed this forenoon, on the petition of *William Buckley* and *Richard Wells,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *William Buckley* and *Richard Wells,* report——

That from the circumſtances mentioned in the petition it appears reaſonable in itſelf, and conſiſtent with the intereſt of the ſtate, to ſuſpend the operation of the act, entituled " *An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles,*" until the firſt day of *January* next, and alſo to introduce a further regulation to the ſhingles of the third kind mentioned in the ſaid act: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to ſuſpend the operation of the act, entituled " *An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles,*" and alſo to provide that ſhingles of the third kind mentioned in ſaid act be packed in bundles containing one hundred and twenty-five each.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *A " Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate relative to the inſpec- " tion of ſtaves, heading and lumber,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, the operation of an act, entituled* " An " Act for the inſpection of ſhingles, and for other purpoſes therein men- " tioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *A Further Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for the attainder of " divers traitors, if they render not themſelves by a certain day, and for

"veſting their eſtates in the commonwealth, and for more effectually diſ-
"covering the ſame, and for aſcertaining and ſatisfying all lawful debts and
"claims thereon," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to erect the town of* Harriſburg, *in the county* "*of* Dauphin, *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act "to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation and ſupport of the* "*poor of* Cheſter *county,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*to incorporate the Carpenters company of* Philadelphia;" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the election of Repreſentatives* "*of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States,*" was read the ſecond time.

And in conſidering the ſame by paragraphs,

A motion was made by Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Baird,* in the following words, *viz.*

That it be re-committed, with inſtructions to divide the ſtate into diſtricts, containing, as nearly as may be, ſuch number of taxable inhabitants as are entitled to elect one Repreſentative; where that cannot be done, ſuch number of adjoining counties ſhall be formed into one diſtrict, as ſhall be entitled to elect not more than three Repreſentatives; but neither the city nor any county ſhall be divided in forming a diſtrict.

Which was carried in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 30, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 27th, on the petition of *Lewis Prahl,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Lewis Prahl,* report——

That having fully conſidered the circumſtances of his caſe, which is by no means of a ſingular nature, as it is well known that ſome thouſands of the citizens of this ſtate have had their property taken from them or deſtroyed by the *Britiſh* army, and that theſe are circumſtances which can only be ranked among the calamities of war, and not within the ability of the Legiſlature to redreſs: Therefore the following reſolution is ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Lewis Prahl* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 24th, on the petition of *Blackall William Ball,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Blackall William Ball,* report——

That they conſider the prayer of the preſent petition partly of a ſimilar nature with that which has been decided upon during the preſent ſeſſion of the Houſe, and that they cannot ſee the propriety of again recommending it to the conſideration of this Aſſembly: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Blackall William Ball* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 23d, on the memorial of the members of the *Hebrew* Congregation of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the members of the *Hebrew* Congregation of the city of *Philadelphia,* report——

That in conſideration of the circumſtances ſet forth in ſaid petition, which appear to your committee to be founded in fact, it appears reaſonable that the prayer of their petition ſhould be granted: Therefore the committee ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the members of the *Hebrew* Congregation have leave to preſent a bill for inſtituting and eſtabliſhing a lottery, for the purpoſe of redeeming their houſe of public worſhip from the mortgage and incumbrance thereon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, who were directed by a reſolution of the 24th inſtant to enquire what number and amount of the bills of credit emitted by act of Aſſembly of 1ſt *June* 1780, and thoſe of 7th *April* 1781, remain unredeemed, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts, to whom was referred the reſolution of the Houſe of 24th of *March* inſtant, directing them to enquire what number and amount of the bills of credit emitted by act of Aſſembly of 1ſt *June* 1780, and thoſe of 7th *April* 1781, remain unredeemed, and report ſpecially thereon to this Houſe, report——

That, although your committee might ſeem juſtifiable in ſtating only the preſent balances of thoſe emiſſions remaining unredeemed, yet, as the preamble to the reſolution ſtates that conſiderable differences had appeared in the ſtatements of the accounts of the Comptroller-General and Regiſter-General in the premiſes, they conceive it their duty to inform the Houſe how and at what time thoſe differences aroſe, as far as they have been able to diſcover.

1ſt. It appears to your committee, from the Comptroller-General's ſtatement of 7th *November* 1787, that there was a balance to be redeemed of bills of credit of *June* 1780, 46,358 dollars, and in his ſtatement of 4th *November* 1788, to be redeemed of the aforeſaid bills of credit, 36,453 dollars.

Nevertheleſs the ſtate hath been charged in the Treaſurer's accounts, rendered to and ſettled by the Comptroller-General to the 1ſt *September* 1789, 1789, with £17,514 4 1 in the bills of credit of *March* 1785, paid in exchange for 35,091 dollars in bills of credit of 1ſt *June* 1780, together with intereſt thereon.

2d That in the report made by the late Treaſurer, agreeably to the act of Aſſembly of 30th *September* 1789, to the Regiſter-General, the ſtate is further charged with £7,745 16 8, in bills of credit of *March* 1785, paid in exchange for 15,464 dollars, in bills of credit of 1ſt *June* 1780, together with the intereſt thereon.

3d. That in the Treaſurer's accounts of 1786 and 1787, he charges himſelf with 63,438 dollars in bills of credit of *June* 1780, received in exchange for a like ſum of bills of credit of *March* 1785, which makes a part of the ſum ſtated by the Comptroller-General to have been redeemed and in the treaſury in *November* 1787; yet it appears not to your committee that the Comptroller-General hath charged the ſtate, or credited the Treaſurer, with the bills of credit of *March* 1785, paid in exchange for the ſaid bills of *June* 1780, in any of his three ſtatements to the Houſe, of *November* 1787, *March* 24th 1788, and *November* 4th 1788. By which omiſſion it appears to your committee the finances of the ſtate were repreſented in a better ſituation than they really were, by the amount of the ſaid 63,438 dollars, together with the intereſt due thereon.

4th. That the Comptroller and Regiſter-General both agree, that the aforeſaid ſums of £17,514 4 1, and £7,745 16 8, of the bills of credit of *March* 1785, paid in exchange for the aforeſaid ſums of 35,091 and 15,464 dollars, making together 50,555 dollars, together with the intereſt thereon, as per articles 1ſt and 2d, were the only ſums, in the bills of credit of *March* 1785, yet brought to the debit of the ſtate, for the redemption of the aforeſaid 63,438 dollars in bills of *June* 1ſt 1780, ſtated to have been received in *November* 1787, leaving a balance of 12,883 dollars, which, added to the ſum of 7,809 dollars principal of ſaid bills, which the Treaſurer alſo charges himſelf with as received in exchange for other monies, in his ſtate money accounts for 1788 and 1789, amounts to 20,697 dollars principal, and, eſtimating the intereſt on this ſum at ſix years and eight months, the average intereſt paid on thoſe ſums, contained in the 1ſt and 2d articles, makes 6,898 dollars and 30-90ths; ſo that the bills of credit of *March* 1785 are, or may yet be abſorbed in the exchange of the aforeſaid ſum of 27,595 dollars, principal and intereſt, to the amount thereof, more than has yet been ſtated to this Houſe, although ſtated by the Comptroller-General to have been redeemed in 1787.

5th. That the Comptroller-General, in *Nov.* 1788, ſtates, as per article 1ſt, a balance remaining to be redeemed in bills of credit of *June* 1ſt 1780, - - .	*Dols.* 36,453
The ſtate hath been charged with the ſum of £25,260 0 9, in the bills of *March* 1785, paid in exchange for bills of 1ſt *June* 1780 ſince the ſaid ſtatement, per article 4th, Principal, - -	50,555
To which add amount of ſaid bills yet to be redeemed, as per article 6th, including the ſum remaining in the hands of the continental loan-officer, - --	103,709
	Dols. 154,264

The differences between the Comptroller's above ſtatement and the ſum it has and may coſt the ſtate to redeem the aforeſaid bills of *June* 1780, ſince the aboveſaid ſtatement of *November* 1788, is - - -	117,811
Beſides the further ſum that may yet be brought to account, and the intereſt thereon, as per article 4th, -	27,595
Total, -	*Dols.* 145,406

6th. That notwithſtanding the foregoing ſtatements of the Comptroller-General, which have been exhibited from time time, your committee are of opinion that the following, being taken from a recent certificate of the late Treaſurer, is a true ſtate of the bills of *June* 1ſt 1780, *viz.*

Quantity emitted, - -		*Dols.* 1,495,000
Burnt by committee of Aſſembly *Nov.* 21ſt, 1788, - -	1,391,291	
Retained by *Thomas Smith*, Eſq; continental loan-officer, - -	78,642	
Remaining to be redeemed, balance	25,067	
		Dols. 1,495,000

7th. That your committee, on the inveſtigation of accounts of the bills of credit of *April* 7th 1781, obſerve, that in the ſtatement of the Comptroller-General of *November* 1787, it is ſtated of the ſaid bills,

Burnt and deſtroyed, - -	£ 437,474	9	9
In the treaſury, - -	6,777	1	9
	£ 444,251	11	6
Due to ſundry perſons for certificates and balances, payable in this money, which will be iſſued, -	£ 7,250	0	0

8th. In the Comptroller-General's ſtatement of *Nov.* 1788, page 8, he brings forward the above ſums burnt and in the treaſury, *as redeemed*, without making allowance for the ſum called again into circulation, although he calculates himſelf on a ſum of £ 7250 being again iſſued, and ſays,

Redeemed, per laſt ſettlement, - -	444,251	11	6
Redeemed ſince,	13,293	6	2
	£ 457,544	17	8
9th. In the Regiſter-General's ſtatement there appears to have been burnt and deſtroyed to 1ſt *Sept.* 1788,	437,474	9	9
Difference between the two ſtatements,	£ 20,070	7	11

Which appears to have ariſen, principally, from the Comptroller's conſidering money once paid into the treaſury as redeemed, although it may not only be paid out again, but he has himſelf calculated upon the ſum of £ 7250 being again to be paid out for the purpoſe he mentions.

10th. That from the Comptroller-General's ſtatements of *Nov.* 1787 and *Nov.* 1788, there ought to have been in the treaſury, on the 1ſt *Sept.* 1788, in bills of credit of *April* 7th 1781, being the balance of £ 20,070 7 11, reſulting from the laſt mentioned ſtatements, after deducting thereout the ſum of £ 755 2 10, which, in his ſtatement of *Nov.* 1788, he aſſerts to have been ſince paid out for ſundry debts and certificates, - -	19,215	5	1
By an account exhibited by the Regiſter-General, there appeared a balance remaining in the treaſury of ſaid emiſſion of *April* 7th 1781, from 1ſt *Sept.* 1788 to 22d *Sept.* 1789, including the ſum of £ 500 1 0, paid out within that period, in purſuance of certain warrants of Council,	9,814	7	1
	£ 29,029	12	2
Burnt and deſtroyed *Sept.* 22d 1789, -	24,000	0	0
	£ 5,029	12	2
From which deduct the balance in the treaſury on 1ſt *Oct.* 1789, as per the late Treaſurer's account, rendered to *Oct.* 1789, - - -	651	4	7
Difference, - -	£ 4,378	7	7

Therefore the difference of £ 4,378 7 7 will appear between the Comptroller's ſtatement of *Nov.* 1788 and the ſum, which, from his preceding ſtatements, ought to have been in the treaſury in the bills of credit of *April* 7th 1781.

Yet, notwithſtanding thoſe ſtatements by the Comptroller-General, your committee are of opinion the true ſtate of the ſaid bills of 7th *April* 1781, taken from the certificate of the late Treaſurer, is as follows, *viz.*

Whole amount of the emiſſion, -				£ 486,500	0	0
Burnt by the committee of accounts, at ſundry times, -	461,474	9	9			
Burnt by your committee of accounts, *March* inſtant, -	2,881	14	6			
Balance yet unredeemed, -	22,143	15	9			
				£ 486,500	0	0

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred, *November* 9th, the petitions of the owners of lands in the frontier and other counties of this ſtate, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred all the papers on the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly relative to taxes laid upon unſeated lands, report——

That having carefully conſidered the ſubject, it appears to them that great abuſes and oppreſſions have from time to time been the conſequence of the mode hitherto in practice for aſſeſſing and collecting taxes upon unſeated lands, the effects of which have not only diſcouraged and injured the ſale of the lands belonging to the ſtate, but have alſo diminiſhed the product of the general taxes. Property has in many inſtances been taxed ſo high, as to render it not worth while for the owner to redeem it; and in many inſtances the owner has had no notice of the demands againſt it, although prepared and willing to diſcharge them. In both caſes the ſales have generally been far below the real value of the property, and thus the ſtate in fact ſuſtains the injury, as it has to recur to other ſubjects of taxation to produce the ſums neceſſary for the public welfare. The inſecurity of public property, liable to ſuch devaſtation, ultimately tends to render the commonwealth odious abroad, while it impairs its wealth at home; and hence the committee apprehend it will be expedient (without continuing the ſuſpenſion of ſales, which has from time to time been neceſſarily adopted) to propoſe a plan, which will promote the collection of the arrearages, without ſubjecting the owners of the property in queſtion to ſuch manifeſt unmerited deſtruction: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enforce the collection of the arrearages of taxes aſſeſſed upon unſeated lands, upon the following principles:

1ſt. That due notice be given of the ſums due for taxes upon ſuch lands, and of the day and place of appeal, at leaſt   months.

2d. That the commiſſioners be authoriſed, upon ſuch appeal, to exonerate all ſuch unſeated lands from taxation, during ſuch periods of time as the incurſions of the *Indians* prevailed in the neighbourhood of ſuch ſettlements, during which time ſuch lands could not be improved, without danger to the ſettlers.

3d. That the commiſſioners return liſts of ſuch aſſeſſments to the Treaſurer of the ſtate, who ſhall be authoriſed and required to demand and receive ſuch taxes of the perſons from whom due, and to take legal meaſures to compel them perſonally to make payment thereof.

4th. That all ſuch lands, liable to taxes as aforeſaid, payment of which cannot be ſo recovered by the Treaſurer, may be expoſed to ſale by the commiſſioners of the proper county, under proper regulations: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Britton* and Mr. *Lilley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to authoriſe the ſale of the barracks in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and the lot or lots on which they are erected, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to reduce the tax upon writs iſſued out of the County Court of Common Pleas of* Philadelphia *county, during the time therein limited.*

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* York *into* "*a ſeparate county*," was read the ſecond time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all and ſingular the lands lying within the bounds and limits herein after mentioned ſhall be, and are hereby erected into a ſeparate county, by the name of   county, namely; beginning on the line of *Cumberland* county, where the road leading from *Carliſle* acroſs *Dill's Gap* interſects the ſaid line; thence a direct courſe to the *Conewago Creek*, oppoſite the mouth of *Abbot's Run*; thence along ſaid run, ſo long as it continues the diviſion line between *Paradiſe* and *Berwick* townſhips; thence along the line of *Berwick*, until it ſtrikes the line of *Heidleberg*; thence ſouthward, ſo as to exclude *Hanover-town*, to the line dividing *York* county from the ſtate of *Maryland*; thence weſt, along ſaid line, to the *Franklin* county line; thence along ſaid line to the *Cumberland* county line, and along the ſame to the place of beginning.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Clingan*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Rawle*,
2 *Thomas Britton*,
3 *Elias Boys*,
4 *John M'Dowell*,
5 *James Cunningham*,
6 *Thomas Clingan*,
7 *Thomas Kennedy*,
8 *David Mitchell*,
9 *Jonathan Hoge*,
10 *John Ludwig*,
11 *Nicholas Lutz*,
12 *Daniel Leinbach*,
13 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
14 *John Moore*,
15 *Herman Huſband*,
16 *Samuel Maclay*,
17 *John Baird*,

YEAS.

18 *James Barr*,
19 *James Alliſon*,
20 *Alexander Wright*,
21 *Thomas Ryerſon*,
22 *James Marſhall*,
23 *John Gilchreeſt*,
24 *James Finley*,
25 *James Johnſon*,
26 *John Rhea*,
27 *Benjamin Markley*,
28 *Jacob Miley*,
29 *James M'Creight*,
30 *David Stewart*,
31 *John Nevil*,
32 *John Harris*,
33 *Hugh Lloyd*,
34 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
2 *Francis Gurney*,
3 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
4 *Thomas Paul*,
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *James Bryan*,
9 *Richard Thomas*,
10 *Richard Downing*, jun.
11 *James Clemſon*,
12 *Jacob Erb*,

NAYS.

13 *John Miller*,
14 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
15 *John Stewart*,
16 *Thomas Lilley*,
17 *William Godfrey*,
18 *Peter Ealer*,
19 *Jacob Reiff*,
20 *Jonathan Roberts*,
21 *James Vaux*,
22 *John Carſon*,
23 *Obadiah Gore*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to enforce the due collection of taxes aſſeſſed upon unſeated and unimproved*

“ *lands within this ſtate, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to reform the penal laws of this ſtate,*” was read the third time, and in part conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow, and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion poſtponed *March* 26th, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *John Nicholſon,* Eſq; ſtanding at the bar of this Houſe, be reprimanded by the Speaker for his conduct, in imputing to a member of the Houſe, acting in the diſcharge of the duties of his ſtation, motives ſuppoſed to ariſe from perſonal enmity; and, in conſideration that the ſaid *John Nicholſon* hath ſince declared that he intended no diſreſpect thereby to the Houſe, that he be diſcharged without further proceedings.

A motion was made by Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Boys,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid reſolution, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Whereas, by a reſolution of the 19th inſtant, *John Nicholſon* was ordered to appear before the bar of this Houſe, to anſwer for his conduct in writing and publiſhing a letter, ſaid to contain indecent reflections againſt *Conrad Ihrie,* junior, Eſquire, a member of this Houſe, and likewiſe a breach of privilege: And whereas *John Nicholſon* has declared, by letter, that he did not intend any reflection on this Houſe: Therefore

Reſolved, That *John Nicholſon* be diſcharged without further proceedings.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the* “ *aforeſaid purpoſe?*”—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Ludwig* and Mr. *Maclay,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Thomas Clingan,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Daniel Leinbach,*
11 *John Moore,*
12 *Herman Huſband,*
13 *Samuel Maclay,*

YEAS.

14 *John Baird,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
19 *James Marſhall,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *James Finley,*
22 *James Johnſon,*
23 *John Rhea,*
24 *Jacob Miley,*
25 *James M‘Creight,*
26 *John Nevil.*

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Rawle*,
5 *Francis Gurney*,
6 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
7 *Thomas Paul*,
8 *Thomas Britton*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *James Bryan*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Richard Downing*, jun.
14 *John M'Dowell*,
15 *James Clemſon*,
16 *Henry Dering*,
17 *Jacob Erb*,
18 *John Miller*,
19 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
20 *John Stewart*,
21 *Thomas Lilley*,
22 *William Godfrey*,
23 *Peter Ealer*,
24 *John White*,
25 *Jacob Reiff*,
26 *Jonathan Roberts*,
27 *Benjamin Markley*,
28 *James Vaux*,
29 *John Carſon*,
30 *Obadiah Gore*,
31 *David Stewart*,
32 *Hugh Lloyd*,
33 *Richard Riley*.

So it was carried in the negative; and the original reſolution recurring,

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

To poſtpone the conſideration thereof, in order to introduce the following, to precede the ſame, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, is guilty of a breach of the privileges of this Houſe, and of a contempt of the Legiſlature of *Pennſylvania*.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative.

And the reſolution moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*, being under conſideration.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lewis*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Rawle*,
5 *Francis Gurney*,
6 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
7 *Thomas Paul*,
8 *Thomas Britton*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *James Bryan*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Richard Downing*, jun.
14 *John M'Dowell*,
15 *James Clemſon*,
16 *Henry Dering*,
17 *Jacob Erb*,
18 *John Miller*,
19 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
20 *Thomas Lilley*,
21 *William Godfrey*,
22 *Peter Ealer*,
23 *Jacob Reiff*,
24 *Jonathan Roberts*,
25 *Benjamin Markley*,
26 *James Vaux*,
27 *John Carſon*,
28 *Obadiah Gore*,
29 *David Stewart*,
30 *Hugh Lloyd*,
31 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Thomas Clingan,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*
8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Daniel Leinbach,*
11 *John Moore,*
12 *Herman Huſband,*
13 *Samuel Maclay,*

NAYS.

14 *John Baird,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
19 *James Marſhall,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *James Finley,*
22 *James Johnſon,*
23 *John Rhea,*
24 *Jacob Miley,*
25 *James M'Creight,*
26 *John Nevil.*

So it was carried in the affirmative; and the original reſolution again recurring, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *John Nicholſon,* Eſquire, ſtanding at the bar of this Houſe, be reprimanded by the Speaker for his conduct, in imputing to a member of the Houſe, acting in the diſcharge of the duties of his ſtation, motives ſuppoſed to ariſe from perſonal enmity; and, in conſideration that the ſaid *John Nicholſon* hath ſince declared that he intended no diſreſpect thereby to the Houſe, that he be diſcharged without further proceedings.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Rhea* and Mr. *Lewis,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Lewis,*
4 *William Rawle,*
5 *Francis Gurney,*
6 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
7 *Thomas Paul,*
8 *Thomas Britton,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *James Bryan,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *John M'Dowell,*
15 *James Clemſon,*
16 *Henry Dering,*

YEAS.

17 *Jacob Erb,*
18 *John Miller,*
19 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
20 *Thomas Lilley,*
21 *William Godfrey,*
22 *Peter Ealer,*
23 *Jacob Reiff,*
24 *Jonathan Roberts,*
25 *Benjamin Markley,*
26 *James Vaux,*
27 *John Carſon,*
28 *Obadiah Gore,*
29 *David Stewart,*
30 *Hugh Lloyd,*
31 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Cunningham,*
4 *Thomas Clingan,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Jonathan Hoge,*

NAYS.

8 *John Ludwig,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Daniel Leinbach,*
11 *John Moore,*
12 *Herman Huſband,*
13 *Samuel Maclay,*
14 *John Baird,*

NAYS.

15 *James Barr,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
19 *James Marſhall,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*

NAYS.

21 *James Finley,*
22 *James Johnſon,*
23 *John Rhea,*
24 *Jacob Miley,*
25 *James M‘Creight,*
26 *John Nevil.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The Speaker then, purſuant to the ſaid reſolutions, reprimanded the ſaid *John Nicholſon*, ſtanding at the bar of the Houſe.

After which he was informed, that he was diſcharged without further proceedings.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 31, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 24th, on the petition of the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed *German* Congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed *German* Congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*, and other members of the ſaid congregation, praying to be allowed by law to raiſe a ſum of money by lottery, for the purpoſe of paying their debts contracted by building their church, ſchool-houſe and parſonage-houſe, report——

That in the opinion of the committee it will be proper to grant the prayer of the petitioners: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed *German* Congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*, be permitted to bring in a bill to empower them to raiſe a ſum of money by way of lottery, for the purpoſe of paying their debts contracted by building their church, ſchool-houſe and parſonage-houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to reform the penal laws of this ſtate*;" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for appointing two additional Truſtees for the* "*county of* Huntingdon," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clingan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Nevil*, in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Moſes M‘Clean* and *William Kerſey*, of the county of *York*, and *John Cunningham*, of the borough of *Lancaſter*, ſurveyors, be, and they are hereby appointed to ſurvey and mark the propoſed diviſion line in *York* county, and make report to this Aſſembly of the ſame, by courſes and diſtances, at their next ſeſſion; beginning on the *Cumberland* line, where the road leading from *Carliſle* acroſs *Dill's Gap* interſects the ſaid line; thence a ſtreight courſe to the *Conewago Creek*, oppoſite the mouth of *Abbot's Run*; thence along ſaid run, ſo long as it continues the diviſion line between *Paradiſe* and *Berwick* townſhips; thence along the *Berwick* line, until it ſtrikes the line of *Heidleberg* townſhip; thence a ſtreight line, ſo as to exclude *Hanover-town*, to the *Maryland* line; or ſuch other line or lines as they may be called upon to run, by thoſe who are included within the propoſed new diviſion of ſaid county; who ſhall for their ſervices, whilſt engaged in performing ſaid buſineſs, be paid the ſum of   per day by the inhabitants of the ſaid propoſed diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Clingan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea*, in the following words, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *James Cunningham*, of the borough of *Lancaſter*, *Jonathan Hoge*, of the county of *Cumberland*, and *James Johnſon*, of the county of *Franklin*, Eſquires, be, and they are hereby appointed to view and examine the ſituation of the ſeveral places propoſed for the ſeat of juſtice in the weſtern part of *York* county, intended to be erected into a ſeparate county, and make report of ſuch place as they may judge moſt ſuitable and proper for the ſame to this Aſſembly, at their next ſeſſion; for which ſervice they ſhall be paid the ſum of   per day, whilſt engaged in performing ſaid ſervice, by the inhabitants who ſhall be included within ſaid diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 29th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Dauphin* county, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, praying that means may be provided for repairing the road between Colonel *Grubb*'s old furnace and forge, beg leave to report——

That as a general plan for improving the roads and internal navigation within this ſtate has been for ſome time in contemplation, and proper meaſures for obtaining the neceſſary information relating thereto are now taking by direction of the Legiſlature, it will be expedient to poſtpone the conſideration of any particular improvement, until they ſhall be found to be proper parts of the general ſyſtem: The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners for repairing the road betwixt Colonel *Grubb*'s old furnace and forge have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enforce the due collection of the revenues* "*of this ſtate, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being* "*enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Marſhall,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Rawle,*
3 *Francis Gurney,*
4 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
5 *Thomas Paul,*
6 *Thomas Britton,*
7 *Elias Boys,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *James Bryan,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Richard Downing,* jun.
14 *John M'Dowell,*
15 *James Clemſon,*
16 *Henry Dering,*
17 *Jacob Erb,*
18 *John Miller,*
19 *Thomas Clingan,*
20 *Jacob Schmyſer,*

YEAS.

21 *John Stewart,*
22 *Thomas Lilley,*
23 *William Godfrey,*
24 *Nicholas Lutz,*
25 *Daniel Leinbach,*
26 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
27 *John White,*
28 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
29 *Jacob Reiff,*
30 *Jonathan Roberts,*
31 *Benjamin Markley,*
32 *James Vaux,*
33 *Jacob Miley,*
34 *John Carſon,*
35 *James M'Creight,*
36 *Obadiah Gore,*
37 *David Stewart,*
38 *Hugh Lloyd,*
39 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Kennedy,*
2 *David Mitchell,*
3 *Jonathan Hoge,*
4 *John Ludwig,*
5 *John Moore,*
6 *Samuel Maclay,*
7 *John Baird,*
8 *James Alliſon,*

NAYS.

9 *Alexander Wright,*
10 *James Marſhall,*
11 *John Gilchreeſt,*
12 *James Finley,*
13 *James Johnſon,*
14 *John Rhea,*
15 *John Nevil.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

A letter from *Timothy Pickering,* Eſq; was preſented to the chair, and read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal an act, entituled* "An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* "and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," and requeſting the ſaid bill may lie over until the next ſeſſion, for further conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report on that part of the meſſage of Council, which reſpects the navigation of the rivers *Delaware, Schuylkill* and *Suſquehanna,* read *March* 27th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to the reports of the Commiſſioners appointed to view the *Delaware*, the *Schuylkill* and the *Suſquehanna*, in purſuance of the act of Aſſembly enacted the twenty-eighth day of *September*, 1789, beg leave to report,——

That the ſurveys directed appear to have been made with great care, accuracy and judgment, and upon the whole to warrant the inference that the waters of thoſe rivers may, in general, be rendered navigable, with as little difficulty and expence as thoſe of any rivers in the United States: But it appears to the committee to be expedient, previous to proceeding in the execution of any part of the great deſign propoſed by the Legiſlature, that proper meaſures ſhould be taken to aſcertain the moſt practicable communication between the eaſtern and weſtern limits of the ſtate. The Commiſſioners appointed were, from the directions of the law, confined to the inveſtigation of the navigable waters of the *Delaware*, the *Schuylkill*, and the *Suſquehanna*, and the ſtreams which communicated with them.

The reſolution which the committee will propoſe is calculated to obtain a clear and ſatisfactory knowledge of thoſe internal parts of the ſtate, hitherto unexplored for theſe purpoſes; to aſcertain the moſt convenient and practicable place for connecting the waters of the rivers already mentioned with the *Allegheny*, *Lake Ontario* and *Lake Erie*; and, in caſes where portage by land will be neceſſary, to examine the face of the country, and report the moſt ſuitable places for landings and roads.

Ths ſtate of *Pennſylvania* appears to the committee not only to be calculated, from its natural advantages, for thoſe improvements which will facilitate its internal commerce, and promote the wealth and population of its territory, but to be the probable grand channel of future communication between the eaſtern and weſtern extremities of the United States: And hence it is conceived, that to neglect the acquiſition of proper materials for the formation of a general plan, upon the moſt liberal principles within the abilities of the commonwealth; would be inconſiſtent both with our intereſt and our reputation.

The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and requeſted to appoint three ſuitable and ſkilful perſons Commiſſioners, who ſhall proceed, as ſoon as may be, to the head of the *Quitapahilla*, and from thence ſhall proceed to the *Swatara*, and down the *Swatara* to the *Suſquehanna*; then, paſſing over that part of the *Suſquehanna* which has been already examined by the Commiſſioners herein before mentioned, they ſhall aſcend to the mouth of the *Juniata*, where they ſhall re-commence the examination propoſed, and proceed up the *Suſquehanna* to *Sunbury*, and thence up the weſt branch to *Cinnamahoning*, and up the ſame to the *Canoe Place* (ſo called) or ſuch place on the main branch or the weſt branch of *Cinnamahoning*, as will connect moſt eaſily with any practicable branch of the *Allegheny*, the *Conſua*, *Toby*'s creek, or any other which may diſcharge itſelf into the *Allegheny* neareſt to the mouth of *French* creek; and thence examine *French* creek up to *Le Bœuff*, and the portage to *Preſque Iſle*; that they alſo examine and explore any nearer and more convenient communication which may be effected by land or water with *Lake Erie*; that ſuch Commiſſioners thence return down the *Allegheny*, and examine the ſame from the mouth of *French* creek to the *Kiſkemenetas*,

tas, and up the *Kiſkemenetas* to the *Conemaugh,* and up the *Conemaugh* to its forks with *Stony-creek,* and from the ſame, by the neareſt branches which can be improved by canal or lock navigation, to the ſhorteſt portage which may be found to the *Frank*'s-*town* branch of *Juniata,* at or near the mouth of *Poplar* run, where *Patrick Caſſady* now lives, and down the *Frank*'s-*town* branch of *Juniata* to the head of *Water-ſtreet,* where the Commiſſioners of laſt year concluded the report of their work.

That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be alſo authoriſed and requeſted to appoint three other ſuitable and ſkilful men to explore the country, and aſcertain the beſt road and ſhorteſt diſtance from the *Delaware,* near the forks of the *Mohawk* and *Popaughton* branches, to the great bend on the *Suſquehanna,* and thence proceed down the *Suſquehanna* to the mouth of *Tioga,* and from thence to the junction of the eaſt and weſt branches of *Suſquehanna*; that on their return from thence, the ſaid commiſſioners be directed to explore the *Lehigh,* from its head to the *Turn-hole*; and alſo to examine and explore the *Tobehanna* and the *Schuylkill,* from *Hamburgh,* where the commiſſioners before mentioned concluded their work, to the mouth of *Tamaguay,* or little *Schuylkill,* as far as good raft navigation may be ſuppoſed to extend.

That for the purpoſe of defraying the expences of ſuch examinations and ſurveys, the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, not exceeding the ſum of *ſix hundred pounds,* to be charged to the fund, in and by the act of Aſſembly before mentioned appropriated for claims and improvements.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act for aſ-
" certaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,*
" the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other
" purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Gurney,* ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid bill until the next ſeſſion.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement ?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Kennedy,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Rawle,*
3 *Francis Gurney,*
4 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
5 *Thomas Paul,*
6 *Thomas Britton,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *James Bryan,*
10 *Richard Thomas,*
11 *Richard Downing,* jun.
12 *John Miller,*
13 *Jacob Schmyſer,*

YEAS.

14 *Thomas Lilley,*
15 *William Godfrey,*
16 *Jonathan Hoge,*
17 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
18 *Herman Huſband,*
19 *James Finley,*
20 *Jonathan Roberts,*
21 *John Carſon,*
22 *James M‘Creight,*
23 *Obadiah Gore,*
24 *John Nevil,*
25 *Hugh Lloyd,*
26 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Elias Boys,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*

NAYS.

3 *John M‘Dowell,*
4 *James Clemſon,*

NAYS.

5 *James Cunningham,*
6 *Jacob Erb,*
7 *Thomas Clingan,*
8 *John Stewart,*
9 *Thomas Kennedy,*
10 *David Mitchell,*
11 *John Ludwig,*
12 *Nicholas Lutz,*
13 *Daniel Leinbach,*
14 *John Moore,*
15 *Samuel Maclay,*
16 *John White,*

NAYS.

17 *John Baird,*
18 *James Barr,*
19 *James Alliſon,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James Johnſon,*
24 *John Rhea,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *James Vaux,*
27 *Jacob Miley,*
28 *David Stewart.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the following paragraph being under conſideration, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the act, entituled "*An* "*Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut "Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for* "*other purpoſes therein mentioned,* be, and the ſame is hereby repealed, and all proceedings had under the ſaid act are hereby rendered void, and declared to be null and of no effect; and all titles and claims which might be ſuppoſed to be affected by ſaid act are hereby re-veſted in the former owners, in as full and ample a manner as if the ſaid act had never been enacted, any thing in the ſame to the contrary notwithſtanding.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Clingan,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Francis Gurney,*
2 *Thomas Paul,*
3 *Thomas Britton,*
4 *Elias Boys,*
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
6 *John Chapman,*
7 *Valentine Upp,*
8 *James Bryan,*
9 *John M'Dowell,*
10 *James Clemſon,*
11 *James Cunningham,*
12 *Jacob Erb,*
13 *Thomas Clingan,*
14 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
15 *John Stewart,*
16 *William Godfrey,*
17 *Thomas Kennedy,*
18 *David Mitchell,*
19 *Jonathan Hoge,*

YEAS.

20 *John Ludwig,*
21 *Nicholas Lutz,*
22 *Daniel Leinbach,*
23 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
24 *John Moore,*
25 *Samuel Maclay,*
26 *John White,*
27 *John Baird,*
28 *James Barr,*
29 *James Alliſon,*
30 *Alexander Wright,*
31 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
32 *John Gilchreeſt,*
33 *James Finley,*
34 *James Johnſon,*
35 *John Rhea,*
36 *Jacob Reiff,*
37 *James Vaux,*
38 *Jacob Miley,*

YEAS.

39 *John Carſon,*
40 *James M'Creight,*
41 *David Stewart,*
42 *Hugh Lloyd,*
43 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Rawle,*
3 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
4 *Richard Thomas,*
5 *Richard Downing,* jun.
6 *John Miller,*
7 *Thomas Lilley,*
8 *Herman Huſband,*
9 *Jonathan Roberts,*
10 *Obadiah Gore,*
11 *John Nevil.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gore,*

To add the following paragraph to the ſaid bill, *viz.*

And whereas it has been repreſented to this Houſe that judgment has been obtained, in ſundry actions of ejectment brought in the Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Northumberland,* for ſundry tracts of land now lying within the county of *Luzerne,* at the ſuit of perſons claiming under titles derived from the late Proprietaries of *Pennſylvania,* in which judgment by default has been recovered againſt perſons holding ſuch lands by virtue of rights or titles derived from or under the ſtate of *Connecticut,* and it is right and juſt that the defendants in ſuch actions ſhould not be diſpoſſeſſed without a trial by jury: Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That no writ or writs of *ſcire facias,* or *habere facias poſſeſſionem,* ſhall iſſue from the ſaid court to revive ſuch judgments, or to carry them into effect; but original writs in ejectment for recovery of any ſuch tracts of land within the ſaid county may be brought at the ſuit of ſuch *Pennſylvania Claimants,* or any of them.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Ryerſon,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
2 *William Rawle,*
3 *Francis Gurney,*
4 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
5 *Elias Boys,*
6 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
7 *John Chapman,*
8 *James Bryan,*
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *Richard Downing,* jun.
11 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
12 *Thomas Lilley,*
13 *William Godfrey,*
14 *Herman Huſband,*
15 *James Alliſon,*
16 *Alexander Wright,*
17 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
18 *Jonathan Roberts,*
19 *James Vaux,*
20 *Jacob Miley,*
21 *John Carſon,*
22 *James M'Creight,*
23 *Obadiah Gore,*
24 *John Nevil,*
25 *Hugh Lloyd,*
26 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Paul,*
2 *Thomas Britton,*
3 *Valentine Upp,*
4 *John M'Dowell,*
5 *James Cunningham,*
6 *Jacob Erb,*

NAYS.

7 *John Miller,*
8 *Thomas Clingan,*
9 *Thomas Kennedy,*
10 *David Mitchell,*
11 *Jonathan Hoge,*
12 *John Ludwig,*
13 *Nicholas Lutz,*
14 *Daniel Leinbach,*
15 *John Moore,*
16 *Samuel Maclay,*

NAYS.

17 *John White,*
18 *John Baird,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *James Finley,*
22 *James Johnſon,*
23 *John Rhea,*
24 *Jacob Reiff,*
25 *David Stewart.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, April 1, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 23d, on the petition of *Daniel Rees,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Daniel Rees,* report——

That they have conſidered the ſubject matter of ſaid petition with attention, and have heard the petitioner, and conſidered the evidence and documents which the petitioner brought forward to ſubſtantiate his claim, and though the committee are rather inclined to believe the petitioner's claim to be a juſt one, yet there does not appear to be a ſufficient foundation for the Houſe to found any proceedings on: They therefore ſubmit a reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Blackall William Ball,* read *March* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was made by Mr. *Wright,* ſeconded by Mr. *Vaux,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolution in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to certify to the State Treaſurer the annual intereſt due on the certificates loſt or deſtroyed, which were the property of *Blackall William Ball,* and to authoriſe the State Treaſurer, after having aſcertained how much intereſt has been paid on ſaid certificates, to pay the arrearages and annual intereſt on ſaid certificates, as the ſame becomes due, and that he ſhall receive ſuch acknowledgment for the payments ſo to be made, as will prevent the ſtate from being again liable therefor.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the negative. And thereupon

Reſolved, That *Blackall William Ball* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Lewis Prahl,* read *March* 30th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Lewis Prahl* have leave to withdraw his petition.

The report of the committee on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Thornbury* and *Birmingham* townſhips, in the county of *Delaware,* read *March* 9th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners from the townſhips of *Thornbury* and *Birmingham,* in the county of *Delaware,* have leave to withdraw their petitions.

The report of the committee on the petition of the *Hebrew* Congregation of *Philadelphia,* read *March* 30th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the members of the *Hebrew* Congregation have leave to preſent a bill for inſtituting and eſtabliſhing a lottery, for the purpoſe of redeeming their houſe of public worſhip from the mortgage and incumbrance thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for appointing an additional Truſtee for the* "*county of* Mifflin," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, the operation* "*of an act, entituled* "An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles, and for other "purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe and direct the ſale of the lands* "*therein mentioned, and for other purpoſes,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this* "*ſtate relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading and lumber,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for appointing two additional Truſtees for the* "*county of* Huntingdon," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to eſtabliſh a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to "grant exonerations in caſes of militia fines," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal an act, entituled* "An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* "the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other "purpoſes therein mentioned," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Rawle*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Francis Gurney*,
2 *Thomas Paul*,
3 *Thomas Britton*,
4 *Elias Boys*,
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *John Chapman*,
8 *James Bryan*,
9 *John M'Dowell*,
10 *James Clemſon*,
11 *Jacob Erb*,
12 *John Miller*,
13 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
14 *William Godfrey*,
15 *Thomas Kennedy*,
16 *David Mitchell*,
17 *Jonathan Hoge*,
18 *John Ludwig*,
19 *Nicholas Lutz*,
20 *Daniel Leinbach*,
21 *John Moore*,

YEAS.

22 *Samuel Maclay*,
23 *John White*,
24 *John Baird*,
25 *James Barr*,
26 *James Alliſon*,
27 *Alexander Wright*,
28 *James Marſhall*,
29 *Thomas Ryerſon*,
30 *John Gilchreeſt*,
31 *James Finley*,
32 *James Johnſon*,
33 *John Rhea*,
34 *Jacob Reiff*,
35 *Benjamin Markley*,
36 *James Vaux*,
37 *Jacob Miley*,
38 *John Carſon*,
39 *James M'Creight*,
40 *David Stewart*,
41 *Hugh Lloyd*,
42 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Lewis*,
4 *William Rawle*,
5 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
6 *Richard Thomas*,
7 *Richard Downing*, jun.

NAYS.

8 *Henry Dering*,
9 *Thomas Lilley*,
10 *Herman Huſband*,
11 *Jonathan Roberts*,
12 *Obadiah Gore*,
13 *John Nevil*,
14 *John Harris*.

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Dowell* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *December* 1ſt laſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, praying that *Chartier*'s creek, in the ſaid county, may by law be declared a public highway, report——

That having duly conſidered the prayer of the petitioners, we are of opinion that it would tend to the utility and advantage of thoſe people, ſhould the prayer of their petition be granted: And therefore your committee beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, declaring *Chartier's* creek, in *Waſhington* county, to be a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled, "*An Act to enforce the due collection of taxes aſſeſſed* "*upon unſeated and unimproved lands within this ſtate, and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Further Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act "for the attainder of divers traitors, if they render not themſelves by a "certain day, and for veſting their eſtates in the commonwealth, and for "more effectually diſcovering the ſame, and for aſcertaining and ſatisfying "all lawful debts and claims thereon," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act appropriating a ſum of money for building* "*and finiſhing a court-houſe and priſon for the county of* Dauphin," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enforce the due collection of the revenues of* "*this ſtate, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion of Mr. *Maclay,* ſeconded by Mr. *Mitchell,*

Reſolved, That this Houſe will on *Tueſday* next cloſe their preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Friday, April 2, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled, "*An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* ſeven hundred and twenty-"three pounds fifteen ſhillings, *for defraying the expence of erecting an Aca-*"*demy and Parſonage-houſe in the borough of* York," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion made by Mr. *Clingan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Nevil, March* 31ſt, was read the ſecond time.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Clingan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid motion, in order to introduce the following as a ſubſtitute, *viz.*

Whereas a bill publiſhed for conſideration, for the diviſion of the county of *York,* deſignates a line which appears to this Aſſembly to give ſome uneaſineſs to a number of the inhabitants near the ſame: And as this Aſſembly are ever willing and deſirous to obtain and have the fulleſt information on every ſubject, previous to a determination thereon: Therefore

Reſolved, That the petitioners in favor of a diviſion of the county of *York* are hereby authoriſed to procure a ſurvey of the line deſignated in a bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* York *into a ſeparate* "*county,*" or any other line or lines of diviſion which thoſe concerned may think proper, ſo that the ſame be done at the expence of the ſaid petitioners; and that *Moſes M'Clean,* ſurveyor, be, and he is hereby appointed for the aforeſaid purpoſe, and is requeſted to make report of the ſame, by courſes and diſtances, to this Aſſembly, at their next ſeſſion.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"

It was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That the motion made by Mr. *Clingan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay,* lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in favor of* John Churchman," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The report on the petition of the truſtees, elders and deacons of the Reformed *German* congregation in the borough of *Reading,* in the county of *Berks,* read *March* 31ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the truſtees, elders and deacons of the Reformed *German* congregation in the borough of *Reading,* in the county of *Berks,* be permitted to bring in a bill to empower them to raiſe a ſum of money by way of lottery, for the purpoſe of paying their debts contracted by building their church, ſchool-houſe and parſonage-houſe.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Con-*"*gregation of St.* James's *Church, in the borough of* Briſtol, *and county of* "Bucks," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for appointing two additional Truſtees for the county of* Huntingdon.

A further SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Carpenters company of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *for altering a certain clauſe in the charter of the corporation for the relief of the widows and children of Clergymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church in the United States of* America.

An ACT *to make proviſion for repairs at* Mud-Iſland.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, April 3, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *February* 15th, on the petition of the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, report——

That they conceive the preſervation of *Dickinſon* College to be of great importance to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.* The advantages of its ſituation, with the ſucceſs it has hitherto had, render it highly probable that it will become a central luminary of ſcience, extending its beneficial rays far into the wilderneſs on the weſt, and, connecting itſelf on the eaſt with the inſtitutions of earlier date at *Philadelphia,* effect that general diffuſion of uſeful ſcience, which can alone inſtruct us to value, and enable us to encreaſe the ſingular bleſſings and advantages we poſſeſs. It is not eaſy, therefore, to define any purpoſes, to which the Legiſlature could more juſtifiably apply the funds within their power, than to relieve from its preſent temporary difficulties an inſtitution, which, with a ſmall aſſiſtance, will reward us ſo amply at a future day, but which, if now neglected, muſt ſoon expire. Yet the committee is too ſenſible of the preſent ſtate of the treaſury, to propoſe what a greater degree of public opulence would admit, and have therefore confined themſelves to the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe and direct the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of the State for the ſum of *one thouſand pounds,* in favour of the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, in the borough of *Carliſle,* and county of *Cumberland,* to be repaid by the ſaid Truſtees at the expiration of ſeven years, without intereſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 27th, on the petition of the Truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of *Philadelphia,* report—

That in their opinion it would be adviſeable to attempt the formation of a plan upon general and liberal principles, which would tend to promote the intereſts of literature, and prevent the ſeminaries already eſtabliſhed from going to decay; but as the approaching concluſion of the ſeſſion renders it impoſſible to procure the neceſſary materials for the purpoſe before the adjournment, they propoſe a reſolution, calculated to enable the Houſe to take up the buſineſs immediately after the receſs. They have included in the reſolution, as relating to the ſame ſubject, the appointment of a committee, in purſuance of the eighteenth ſection of the act, entituled "*An Act to confirm the eſtates and intereſts of the College, Academy and Charitable School,*" conceiving that ſuch viſitations, when directed by law, ought regularly to be made, in order that the public, ſeeing the beneficial application of its bounties, may be encouraged to extend its beneficence to other objects of a like meritorious nature.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to examine the books, accounts and œconomy of the Univerſity of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and to report thereon to this Houſe at the next ſeſſion; and that the ſame committee be inſtructed to report ſuch plan for the advancement of knowledge and literature, by means of the ſaid ſeminary, and of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of *Philadelphia,* as ſhall appear moſt proper for the Legiſlature to adopt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* eight hundred pounds, *for* "*redeeming the houſe of public worſhip belonging to the* Hebrew *congregation* "*of the city of* Philadelphia *from the mortgage and incumbrance thereon,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for a limited time, the operation* "*of an Act, entituled* "An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles, and for "other purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the ſeveral Acts of Aſſembly of this* "*ſtate relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading and lumber,*" was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe and direct the ſale of the lands* "*therein mentioned, and for other purpoſes,*" was read the third time.

And the firſt enacting clauſe being under conſideration,

It was, on motion of Mr. *Rawle,* ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for appointing an additional Truſtee for the* "*county of* Mifflin," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enforce the due collection of taxes aſſeſſed* "*upon unſeated and unimproved lands within this ſtate, and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" was read the third time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe conſider the ſame by paragraphs?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, April 5, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, April 5th,* 1790.

SIR,

COUNCIL requeſt a conference this morning with a committee of the General Aſſembly, on that part of their meſſage to the Legiſlature

ture of the twenty-fifth day of *Auguſt*, 1789, which relates to the gunpowder magazine.

I am, Sir,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Honorable RICHARD PETERS, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Vaux* be a committee, to confer with Council on the ſubject matter contained in the ſaid letter, and report thereon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act in favour of* Robert Thorn," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* " eight hundred pounds, *for redeeming the houſe of public worſhip belonging to* " *the* Hebrew *congregation of the city of* Philadelphia *from the mortgage and* " *incumbrance thereon,*" was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for appointing an additional Truſtee for the county of* Mifflin.

An ACT *to ſuſpend, for a limited time, the operation of an act, entituled* " An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles, and for other purpoſes therein " mentioned."

A SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral Acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading and lumber.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to eſtabliſh a board " of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant exonera- " tions in caſes of militia fines."

The bill, entituled " *An Act to reform the penal laws of this ſtate,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by *Gurney*,

To annex the following paragraph, by way of rider, to the ſaid bill, *viz.*

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the force and operation of the act herein before mentioned, entituled " *An Act for amend-* " *ing the penal laws of this ſtate,*" ſhall, notwithſtanding the ſaid act is herein repealed, remain valid and effectual as to all perſons convicted and ſentenced to confinement, ſervitude and hard labour, conformably to the true intent and meaning of the ſaid act, and of this act.

And the ſaid paragraph being preſented to the chair, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond and third time, and adopted.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted with and as part of the ſaid bill.

The report on the petition of the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, read *April* 3d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe and direct the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of the State for the ſum of *one thouſand pounds,* in favour of the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, in the borough of *Carliſle,* and county of *Cumberland,* to be repaid by the ſaid Truſtees at the expiration of ſeven years, without intereſt.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Britton* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report on the petition of the Truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of *Philadelphia,* read *April* 3d, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Truſtees of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of *Philadelphia,* report——

That in their opinion it would be adviſeable to attempt the formation of a plan upon general and liberal principles, which would tend to promote the intereſts of literature, and prevent the ſeminaries already eſtabliſhed from going to decay; but as the approaching concluſion of the ſeſſion renders it impoſſible to procure the neceſſary materials for the purpoſe before the adjournment, they propoſe a reſolution, calculated to enable the Houſe to take up the buſineſs immediately after the receſs. They have included in the reſolution, as relating to the ſame ſubject, the appointment of a committee, in purſuance of the eighteenth ſection of the act, entituled "*An Act to con-*" *firm the eſtates and intereſts of the College, Academy and Charitable School*" *of the city of* Philadelphia, *and to amend and alter the charters thereof, con-*" *formably to the revolution and to the conſtitution and government of this com-*" *monwealth, and to erect the ſame into an Univerſity,*" conceiving that ſuch *viſitations,* when directed by law, ought regularly to be made, in order that the public, ſeeing the beneficial application of its bounties, may be encouraged to extend its beneficence to other objects of a like meritorious nature.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to examine the books, accounts and œconomy of the Univerſity of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and to report thereon to this Houſe at the next ſeſſion; and that the ſame committee be inſtructed to report ſuch plan for the advancement of knowledge and literature, by means of the ſaid ſeminary, and of the College, Academy and Charitable School of the city of *Philadelphia,* as ſhall appear moſt proper for the Legiſlature to adopt.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed this forenoon, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with Council report, that they have performed the duty aſſigned to them.

It appears that Council have found it impracticable to procure a ſuitable lot, without the limits of the city, for the neceſſary purpoſe of erecting a magazine for the reception and ſtorage of gun-powder, as directed by the reſolve of a late Houſe of Aſſembly on the 12th day of *September*, 1788.

A proper ſituation has occurred, and it is probable may be purchaſed at a reaſonable price, on the banks of the *Schuylkill*, within the city bounds, but the powers of Council do not extend to it.

The neceſſity of a proviſion of the kind being admitted, the propriety of extending the powers contained in the ſaid reſolution is evident, and the following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed to contract for the purchaſe of a ſuitable lot of ground, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a magazine for the ſtorage of gun-powder, and alſo to contract for erecting ſuch building, upon ſuch conſtructions and of ſuch dimenſions, as will conduce to the ſecurity of the public in this inſtance; and that this Houſe will at their next ſeſſion by law make proviſion for the expences of ſuch purchaſe and building.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the payment of the claim of* Turnbull, Marmie *and Company*;" and having fully conſidered the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Mr. *Kennedy*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend the* "*ſales of lands therein mentioned for a time therein limited*;" and, having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

An ACT to ſuſpend the ſales of lands therein mentioned for a time therein limited.

WHEREAS complaints have been from time to time exhibited to this Aſſembly, by the non-reſident holders of lands in ſeveral counties of this ſtate, of the difficulties under which they labour, from the mode of taxation which has been purſued with reſpect to their lands, and this Aſſembly are convinced that ſome means ſhould be fallen upon to relieve them from ſome of the evils complained of, but a plan fully adequate cannot now be digeſted, ſo as to do juſtice as well to the ſtate as the individual:

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all ſales for taxes on lands belonging to non-reſident land-holders within this ſtate be, and the ſame are hereby ſuſpended until the day of next; and the ſaid non-reſident holders of lands are hereby enjoined and required to furniſh the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties, within which the lands to them reſpectively belonging are ſituated, with complete liſts and deſcriptions of their lands, ſpecifying the quantity and ſituation; to the end that a full knowledge of their property may be had, and they being held reſponſible for the accuracy of their information, all complaints on this head may on their part ceaſe.

And whereas it is the determination of this Aſſembly to take, at their next ſeſſion, juſt and effectual meaſures for collecting the ſaid taxes, and delays of payment, when the taxes are found to be properly aſſeſſed, will not conduce either to the intereſt of the ſtate, or of thoſe who owe them, as they will thereby put it out of the power of this Aſſembly, conſiſtent with their duty to other citizens, to indulge any perſons improperly withholding payment:

Be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Treaſurer of this ſtate, or the Treaſurer of any county in which unſeated lands lie, may receive, on account, any ſum or ſums due for taxes laid on unſeated lands, provided the ſame ſhall not be leſs than one third part of the tax due by any non-reſident land holder, and give receipts therefor, to be allowed on the final adjuſtment of the accounts of the perſon paying the ſame.

And in conſidering the firſt enacting clauſe,

It was moved by Mr. *Vaux*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid paragraph, in order to introduce the following as a ſubſtitute, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That previous to any ſale to be held by the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this commonwealth, of any of the lands within the meaning and intention of the ſaid recited act, for any taxes or arrears of taxes due to this commonwealth, the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties in which ſuch lands lie ſhall cauſe the ſaid lands, and the taxes due thereon, and the owners names thereof, to be publicly advertiſed in their reſpective counties, and in one or more of the public papers of the city of *Philadelphia*, for at leaſt   weeks ſucceſſively; and in default of the owners thereof, or ſome perſons for them, diſcharging the ſaid taxes, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall cauſe the ſaid lands, the taxes on which ſhall not be ſo diſcharged, to be ſet up to public ſale, agreeable to the laws now in force in this commonwealth.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the "aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was determined in the affirmative, and the ſaid propoſed paragraph adopted.

And the ſecond enacting clauſe being under conſideration,

A motion was made by Mr. *Vaux*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rawle*,

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid clauſe, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if no perſon ſhall bid the ſum due on each tract, then, and in that caſe, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall cauſe the ſame to be bid in for the uſe of this commonwealth, and make return thereof to the Treaſurer of the commonwealth, due and legal notice being firſt given of the time and place of ſuch ſale.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the "aforeſaid purpoſe?*"

It was determined in the affirmative, and the ſaid propoſed paragraph adopted.

And the preamble to the ſaid bill being under conſideration,

It was moved by Mr. *Vaux*, ſeconded by Mr. *Paul*,

To poſtpone the ſame, in order to introduce the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Whereas an act of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled " *An Act* " *further to continue an Act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend the ſale of " lands for non-payment of taxes, and for other purpoſes therein men- " tioned," has expired by its own limitation: And whereas many inconveniencies may ariſe to the owners of unſettled lands in this commonwealth, if the ſaid lands ſhall be ſet up and ſold for the taxes due thereon, without ſome further notice to the ſaid owners: To prevent the ſaid inconveniencies, and that all ſuch owners may have reaſonable time and notice of the taxes in arrear upon their ſaid lands:

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-* " *ſaid purpoſe?*"

It was carried in the affirmative, and the ſaid propoſed preamble adopted.

And the title of the ſaid bill being then under conſideration,

A motion was made by Mr. *Vaux*, ſeconded by Mr. *Paul*,

To amend the ſame, ſo as to read as follows, *viz.*

" *An Act relating to the ſales of lands therein mentioned.*"

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the afore-* " *ſaid purpoſe?*"

It was determined in the affirmative, and the propoſed title adopted.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The additional clauſe, by way of rider, to the bill, entituled " *An Act* " *to reform the penal laws of this ſtate*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, and the ſaid bill, together with the rider, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *in favour of* Robert Thorn.

An ACT *for the payment of the claim of* Turnbull, Marmie *and* Company.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *April* 6, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled " *An Act relating to the ſales of lands therein men-* " *tioned*," was read the third time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time; and the reſolution therein contained being under conſideration, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed to contract for the purchaſe of a ſuitable lot of ground, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a magazine for the ſtorage of gun-powder, and alſo to contract for erecting ſuch building, upon ſuch conſtructions and of ſuch dimenſions, as will conduce to the ſecurity of the public in this inſtance; and that this Houſe will at their next ſeſſion by law make proviſion for the expences of ſuch purchaſe and building.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid reſolution?*”—the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Mitchell*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Rawle*,
4 *Francis Gurney*,
5 *Samuel Aſhmead*,
6 *Thomas Paul*,
7 *Thomas Britton*,
8 *Elias Boys*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *James Bryan*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *Henry Dering*,
15 *John Miller*,
16 *Thomas Clingan*,
17 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
18 *Thomas Lilley*,
19 *William Godfrey*,
20 *Jonathan Hoge*,

YEAS.

21 *John Ludwig*,
22 *Nicholas Lutz*,
23 *Daniel Leinbach*,
24 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
25 *Herman Huſband*,
26 *James Marſhall*,
27 *Jacob Reiff*,
28 *Jonathan Roberts*,
29 *Benjamin Markley*,
30 *James Vaux*,
31 *Jacob Miley*,
32 *John Carſon*,
33 *James M'Creight*,
34 *Obadiah Gore*,
35 *David Stewart*,
36 *John Nevil*,
37 *John Harris*,
38 *Hugh Lloyd*,
39 *Richard Riley*.

NAYS.

1 *Richard Downing*, jun.
2 *James Cunningham*,
3 *John Stewart*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *John Moore*,
7 *John Baird*,
8 *James Barr*,

NAYS.

9 *James Alliſon*,
10 *Alexander Wright*,
11 *Thomas Ryerſon*,
12 *John Gilchreeſt*,
13 *James Finley*,
14 *James Johnſon*,
15 *John Rhea*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* “ eight hundred pounds, *for redeeming the houſe of public worſhip belonging* “ *to the* Hebrew *Congregation of the city of* Philadelphia *from the mortgage* “ *and incumbrance thereon*,” was read the third time.

And in conſidering the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That *Manuel Joſephſon*, *Solomon Lyon*, *William Wiſtar*, *John Duffield*, *Samuel Hays* and *Solomon Etting* be, and they are hereby appointed Managers and Directors of the lottery hereby inſtituted and directed to be drawn, for the preparing and diſpoſing of tickets, to overſee the drawing of the lots, and to order and perform all ſuch other matters and things as are herein after directed and appointed to be done and performed; and that the ſaid managers, or any four of them, ſhall meet together at ſome convenient place, to be by them appointed, for the execution of the powers and truſts repoſed in them by this act, and ſhall cauſe proper books to be prepared, in which each leaf ſhall be divided into three columns, upon the innermoſt of which ſhall be printed two thouſand one hundred and ſixty tickets, numbered one, two, three, and ſo onwards, in arithmetical progreſſion, where the common exceſs is but one, until they riſe to the number two thouſand one hundred and ſixty; upon the outſide column there ſhall be printed the like number of tickets, of the ſame breadth and form, and numbered in like manner; and in the middle column ſhall be printed a third ſet of tickets, of the ſame number with thoſe of the two other columns; which tickets ſhall be joined with oblique lines or devices, in ſuch manner as the ſaid managers ſhall direct; and every of the laſt mentioned tickets ſhall have written or printed thereupon (beſides the number of ſuch ticket, and the year of our Lord) the following words, *viz.*

HEBREW CONGREGATION LOTTERY.

THIS Ticket entitles the Bearer to ſuch Prize as may be drawn againſt its number, if demanded within nine months after the drawing is finiſhed, ſubject to a deduction of twenty-five per cent.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Rawle* and Mr. *Clingan*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *Francis Gurney,*
4 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
5 *Thomas Britton,*
6 *Elias Boys,*
7 *Valentine Upp,*
8 *Richard Thomas,*
9 *Richard Downing,* jun.
10 *Henry Dering,*
11 *James Cunningham,*
12 *John Miller,*
13 *Thomas Clingan,*
14 *Jacob Schmyſer,*
15 *John Stewart,*
16 *Thomas Lilley,*
17 *William Godfrey,*

YEAS.

18 *Jonathan Hoge,*
19 *John Ludwig,*
20 *Nicholas Lutz,*
21 *Daniel Leinbach,*
22 *Conrad Ihrie,* jun.
23 *Herman Huſband,*
24 *John White,*
25 *Thomas Ryerſon,*
26 *James Johnſon,*
27 *Jacob Reiff,*
28 *Benjamin Markley,*
29 *Jacob Miley,*
30 *John Carſon,*
31 *Obadiah Gore,*
32 *David Stewart,*
33 *John Nevil,*
34 *Richard Riley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Rawle,*
2 *Thomas Paul,*
3 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
4 *John Chapman,*
5 *James Bryan,*

NAYS.

6 *Thomas Kennedy,*
7 *David Mitchell,*
8 *John Baird,*
9 *James Barr,*
10 *James Alliſon,*

NAYS.

11 *Alexander Wright,*
12 *James Marſhall,*
13 *John Gilchreeſt,*
14 *James Finley,*
15 *John Rhea,*

NAYS.

16 *Jonathan Roberts,*
17 *James Vaux,*
18 *John Harris,*
19 *Hugh Lloyd.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully conſidered by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there is due to *Daniel Humphreys,* for ſix ſetts of the *Pennſylvania Mercury* for one year, - - - - .	£6 10 0
For publiſhing in the *Pennſylvania Mercury* the bill, entitled "*An Act to enforce the due collection of the revenues of the ſtate,* &c." - - - - -	£1 15 0
	£8 5 0

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Daniel Humphreys,* for the ſum of *eight pounds five ſhillings,* in full of his account.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That they have examined the accounts of *Peter Z. Lloyd,* Clerk of the General Aſſembly, of the contingent expences of the Houſe, for the payment whereof two orders, amounting to *one hundred and ſeventy-five pounds,* have been heretofore voted in his favour, and find that there remains, after the ſundry diſburſements for the purpoſe aforeſaid, the ſum of *two pounds two ſhillings,* in favour of the ſtate, in his hands.

Your committee alſo report——

That there is due to the ſaid *Peter Z. Lloyd,* for ſervices during the laſt receſs, after deducting the above balance of *two pounds two ſhillings,* the ſum of *nine pounds eighteen ſhillings.* And as it is neceſſary that a further ſum of money ſhould be advanced for the payment of future contingent expences: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Peter Z. Lloyd,* for the ſum of *nine pounds eighteen ſhillings,* in full of his account, and for the ſum of *one hundred pounds,* to pay the contingent expences of the Houſe, to be accounted for by him to the General Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report——

That there appears due to *Hall* and *Sellers, one hundred and twenty-one pounds* for printing the minutes of the firſt ſeſſion of the fourteenth General

Aſſembly, and *fourteen pounds* for printing 100 copies of the Regiſter-General's ſtatement of accounts in ſpecie, and *ſeven pounds* for printing 100 copies of the ſtatement of continental and ſtate money, amounting, in the whole, to *one hundred and forty-two pounds.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Hall* and *Sellers,* for *one hundred and forty-two pounds,* in full of their account for printing the minutes of the laſt ſeſſion, and copies of the ſeveral ſtatements made by the Regiſter-General of the public accounts, as per their account rendered.

The motion made by Mr. *Clingan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Maclay,* read *April* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution,*"—viz.

Reſolved, That the petitioners in favour of a diviſion of the county of *York* are hereby authoriſed to procure a ſurvey of the line deſignated in a bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of the county of* York *into a ſeparate county,*" or any other line or lines of diviſion which thoſe concerned may think proper, ſo that the ſame be done at the expence of the ſaid petitioners; and that *Moſes M'Clean,* ſurveyor, be, and he is hereby appointed for the aforeſaid purpoſe, and is requeſted to make report of the ſame, by courſes and diſtances, to this Aſſembly, at their next ſeſſion.

It was carried in the negative.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report—

That there is a conſiderable ſum of money due to *Thomas Bradford* for printing laws and bills, and for news-papers; and as he requeſts that a part of his account may be now paid him, Therefore

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Thomas Bradford,* for the ſum of *one hundred and twenty pounds,* on account of printing for the General Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report—

That a conſiderable ſum of money is due to *Michael Bilmeyer,* for printing the minutes in the *German* language, but not being poſſeſſed of his account, they offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favour of *Michael Bilmeyer,* for *fifty pounds,* on account for printing the minutes in the *German* language.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* eight hundred pounds, *for redeeming the houſe of public worſhip belonging to the* Hebrew *Congregation of* Philadelphia *from the mortgage and incumbrance thereon.*

An ACT *relating to the ſales of lands therein mentioned.*

On motion of Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clingan*,

Reſolved, That the ſum of *ten pounds* be allowed to *James Martin*, the Sergeant-at-Arms, and *Joſeph Fry*, Door-keeper of the Houſe, reſpectively, for their ſervices during the receſs.

On motion,

Reſolved, That *Jacob Shallus* be allowed *twenty ſhillings* per diem for his ſervices, in aſſiſting the Clerk of the Houſe in the diſcharge of the duties of his appointment.

On motion of Mr. *D. Stewart* and Mr. *Rawle*,

Ordered, That the Clerk cauſe to be printed, and tranſmitted to the ſeveral county Commiſſioners, 100 copies of the act, entituled "*An Act relating* "*to the ſales of lands therein mentioned.*"

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act to provide for the "ſalaries of the Officers of the Land-Office," *enacted the eighth day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine.*

II. *An* ACT *for founding and endowing a public ſchool in the town and county of* Huntingdon.

III. *An* ACT *to regulate the exportation of Pot-Aſh and Pearl-Aſh.*

IV. *An* ACT *to repeal part of the additional Supplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of this commonwealth.*

V. *An* ACT *to divide the county of* Fayette *into election diſtricts.*

VI. *An* ACT *to compenſate* William Lyon, *Eſquire.*

VII. *An* ACT *to reimburſe* Gabriel Coxe, George Valendigham *and* Andrew Sweringen, *for monies advanced by them in the defence of the frontiers of* Waſhington *county.*

VIII. *An* ACT *directing the payment of the accounts of ſundry Deputy Surveyors of the depreciation lands.*

IX. *An* ACT *relating to the ſecurities to be given by Sheriffs and Coroners.*

X. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend, for a limited time, ſo much of the act of Aſſembly to regulate the fiſhery in the rivers* Codorus *and* Conewago, *in* York *county, as relates to the erecting of platforms to the dams therein mentioned.*

XI. *An* ACT *for ſettling the accounts of* James Rowan, *late Collector of taxes in the county of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XII. *An* ACT *to alter the place of holding elections in the ſecond diſtrict of* Waſhington *county.*

XIII. *An* ACT *declaring the aſſent of this State to certain amendments to the conſtitution of the United States.*

XIV. *An* ACT *to provide for the more effectual relief of the widows and children of the officers and privates of the militia, who have loſt their lives in the ſervice of their country.*

XV. *An Additional* SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly reſpecting public auctions and auctioneers.*

XVI. *An* ACT *to authoriſe and direct the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners to audit and ſettle the accounts between* Bedford *and* Huntingdon *counties, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XVII. *An* ACT *to provide for the ſafety of the records of the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XVIII. *A Further* SUPPLEMENT *to the act of Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act for the relief of inſolvent debtors within the province of *Pennſylvania.*"

XIX. *An* ACT *for compenſating* Laughlin M'Cartney, *and others therein mentioned, for ſupplies by them furniſhed the civil officers of* Northumberland *county in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five.*

XX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act for erecting the ſouth-weſt part of the county of *Cumberland* into a new county."

XXI. *An* ACT *for the relief of* John Lytle, John Webb *and* William Murray.

XXII. *An* ACT *in favour of* Reading Howell, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XXIII. *An* ACT *for further enlarging the time limited by the act, entituled* "An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the "year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part "of the funded debt of this ſtate, for extending the time for patenting "lands which were located before the declaration of independency, and for "giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for "the lands by them occupied."

XXIV. *An* ACT *to authoriſe the ſale of the barracks in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and the lot or lots on which they are erected, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XXV. *An* ACT *to reduce the tax upon writs iſſued out of the County Court of Common Pleas of* Philadelphia *county, during the time therein limited.*

XXVI. *An* ACT *to repeal an act, entituled* "An Act for aſcertaining "and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands "by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes "therein mentioned."

XXVII. *An* ACT *for appointing two additional Truſtees for the county of* Huntingdon.

XXVIII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Carpenters Company of* Philadelphia.

XXIX. *An* ACT *to make proviſion for repairs at* Mud-Iſland.

XXX. *A further* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act to incorporate the city of *Philadelphia*.

XXXI. *An* ACT *for altering a certain clauſe in the charter of the corporation for the relief of the widows and children of Clergymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church in the United States of* America.

XXXII. *An* ACT *to reform the penal laws of this ſtate.*

XXXIII. *An* ACT *to enforce the due collection of the revenues of the ſtate, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XXXIV. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend, for a limited time, the operation of an act, entituled* " An Act for the inſpection of ſhingles, and for other purpoſes " therein mentioned."

XXXV. *An* ACT *for appointing an additional Truſtee for the county of* Mifflin.

XXXVI. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the ſeveral Acts of Aſſembly of this ſtate relative to the inſpection of ſtaves, heading and lumber.*

XXXVII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to eſtabliſh " a board of appeal within the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to grant " exonerations in caſes of militia fines."

XXXVIII. *An* ACT *in favour of* Robert Thorn.

XXXIX. *An* ACT *for the payment of the claim of* Turnbull, Marmie *and Company.*

XL. *An* ACT *relating to the ſales of lands therein mentioned.*

XLI. *An* ACT *for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* eight hundred pounds, *for redeeming the houſe of public worſhip belonging to the* Hebrew *congregation of the city of* Philadelphia *from the mortgage and incumbrance thereon.*

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Adjourned until the Fourth *Tueſday* in *Auguſt* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

PETER Z. LLOYD, Clerk
of the General Aſſembly.

APPENDIX.

The following papers not having been handed in in time to be inſerted in their proper places, are here annexed.

REASONS for the Vote given by the Subſcribers on the Queſtion of the 26th Day of March, 1790.

A PROTEST having been entered againſt the reſolutions adopted on the 26th ultimo, relative to the arreſt of *Conrad Ihrie*, jun. Eſq; we deem it neceſſary to give to our conſtituents the reaſons for our votes.

We conceive that we are in this reſpect, as well as in all others, but the ſervants of the people, whoſe intereſts we are bound to maintain, and whoſe dignity and ſovereignty we are entruſted to repreſent, and that the exemption from arreſts during ſeſſion, and in going to and returning from the ſame, except for treaſon, felony, or breach of the peace, is calculated for their benefit, not for that of their Repreſentatives.

If the members of the Legiſlature, collected for the ſolemn and important purpoſes of their delegation, are liable to be arreſted for other cauſes than thoſe which have been ſtated, the neceſſary conſequence is, that the public buſineſs may be obſtructed and the public intereſt ſuffer, while that time which ought to be excluſively applied to the performance of our duties may be ſpent in oppoſing groundleſs accuſations, through all the forms and procraſtinations of the law.

The immunity from arreſt does not extend to treaſon, felony, or breach of the peace; becauſe, where the commiſſion of a crime is open and manifeſt, it becomes evident that the member offending is unworthy of the public truſt, and that to protect him from proſecution would be a greater injury than benefit to the community. But an arreſt for the purpoſe of obtaining ſureties of the peace is founded upon very different principles. Surety of the peace may be required at the diſcretion of the Magiſtrate, and as there are not and cannot be any rules to regulate that diſcretion, if the Magiſtrate, on a complaint made, thinks fit to compel any perſon whatever to give ſuch ſurety, although in fact no juſt occaſion for it may exiſt, he is not afterwards liable to impeachment or puniſhment. Thus a dangerous latitude is veſted, which might eaſily be exerciſed for party purpoſes over the members of the Legiſlature, by reſtraining them from the performance of their duties, and perhaps committing them to gaol on the day of ſome important queſtion, the deciſion of which it was wiſhed to prevent.

Yet if the privilege in this inſtance had been relinquiſhed by our predeceſſors, we ſhould have thought ourſelves no leſs bound by it than we conceive ourſelves bound to maintain all thoſe privileges, tending to promote the benefit of the people, which are veſted in us by the Conſtitution under which we act. We derive our information and authority upon this point from the ninth ſection of the Frame of Government, which, after enumerating certain powers and privileges veſted in the Legiſlature, proceeds to declare, that the General Aſſembly "ſhall have all other powers neceſſary "for the Legiſlature of a free ſtate or commonwealth." Thus the queſtion is reduced to a plain iſſue, and it only remains to determine whether the power of protecting its members from arreſts, in all other than the caſes already ſtated, is or is not neceſſary for the Legiſlature of a free commonwealth.

Upon principles it has already been ſhewn, and, if we collect the determinations of others upon the ſubject, we ſhall find our opinions confirmed by an authority of the moſt reſpectable nature. In the *Conſtitution of the United States*, the exceptions of treaſon, felony and breach of the peace are alone enumerated. We may add, without impropriety, that the alterations and amendments to the Conſtitution of this ſtate, propoſed by ſome of the moſt enlightened men we poſſeſs, enumerates only the ſame exceptions, in the ſame terms.

It has however been contended, that the privileges of the *Britiſh* Houſe of Commons are over-ruled by the common law, which we have adopted, in all caſes where ſurety of the peace is required. A ſhort examination will detect the fallacy of this poſition.

It ſhould be obſerved in the firſt place, that the members of the Houſe of Commons repreſent but a third part of the nation, the King and the Houſe of Lords conſtituting diſtinct and unrepreſented branches; while the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth is a repreſentation of the whole people; and therefore the analogy is not ſo ſtrong as to induce us to be regulated by precedents derived from that body. But without reſting upon this argument we ſhall further remark, that the privileges of the Houſe of Commons were coeval with its inſtitution; they are neceſſary for its ſafety, and they ought to have continued with its exiſtence. But motives, derived from the occaſional politics of that country, have prevailed with the members of that Houſe to relinquiſh, in ſucceſſion, almoſt all of thoſe privileges which the ſafety of their conſtituents required, though it could not compel them to retain. In 1626 both Houſes of Parliament, by reſolutions entered on their journals, declared the caſes to which perſonal privilege ſhould not extend, and upon different occaſions ſince they have reſigned the greateſt part of thoſe privileges, which unqueſtionably adhere to the Legiſlature of this ſtate at this hour. We need only to inſtance the ſervice of civil proceſs, to which in *England* every member of the Legiſlature is at all times liable, and which cannot be ſerved upon the Repreſentatives of the people of *Pennſylvania*, without the conſent of the member, until after the expiration of the ſeſſion. But it is remarkable, that the *refuſal* to give ſecurity of the peace is ſtill, in *England,* the only point which ſupports the authority to arreſt or commit, and no caſe has been produced of a warrant iſſued againſt a perſon having privilege of Parliament, previous to a demand of ſecurity.

The firſt writer upon the common law who refers to the ſubject is Chief Juſtice *Coke,* who, in his fourth volume of *Inſtitutes,* obſerves, that "in "informations for the King, privilege of Parliament does not hold in treaſon, felony and the peace." To ſay nothing of the inference to be drawn from the words "informations for the King," to which he appears to confine it, nor of the apparent ambiguity of expreſſion, which may be conſtrued to ſignify either breach of the peace, or ſurety of the peace, we ſhall only obſerve, that, from the time when the book was publiſhed, it is evident that, if the ſenſe contended for ought to be affixed to the terms he has uſed, his authority muſt be the reſolutions already mentioned, for the ſame author affirms in his reports, that "the privilege, order or cuſtom of Parliament "belongs to the determination and deciſion only of the Court of Parliament."

The deciſions which have ſince taken place in *England,* particularly the caſes of the ſeven Biſhops, in the time of *James* II. and of Mr. *Wilkes,* in the reign of their preſent Monarch, inſtead of refuting, confirm the poſitions we have laid down. In the latter caſe it is eſtabliſhed, that privilege of Parliament does not extend to thoſe breaches of the peace, in which ſurety of the peace may be required; ſo that, inſtead of excluding the privilege in all breaches of the peace, it is excluded only in ſome of them. And to this caſe of *Wilkes* we may particularly refer, to evince the impropriety of drawing precedents from a country, where the privileges veſted in the repreſentatives of the people, for the benefit and ſafety of their conſtituents, are ſo readily ſacrificed, to gratify the wiſhes of a Miniſter, or to promote the purpoſes of the prevailing party.

We have been the more full in ſtating the law upon this head, not only becauſe, when accurately examined, it refutes ſo much of the proteſt as is founded upon it, but alſo becauſe the diſſentients appear to lay ſo much ſtreſs upon the practice of the *Britiſh* Parliaments.

But we have diſclaimed, and we continue to diſclaim any other authority for our conduct, than the rights of a free people repreſented in a free Legiſlature; rights, which we have received in truſt,—which we are bound to maintain, by the moſt ſolemn obligations humanity is capable of deviſing,—and which we are therefore unauthoriſed to relinquiſh.

The exception that has been made in the third reſolution is a neceſſary part of the principles we profeſs. When the Legiſlature is adjourned, it is obvious that the privilege, as to all matters of a criminal nature, ſhould ceaſe. The public welfare requires it; and as no privileges can exiſt, which ſhall be found incompatible with the public welfare, it is evident that members of the Legiſlature from that time become liable to all thoſe proceedings (excluſive of civil ſuits, till a reaſonable time for returning home has expired) to which private men are ſubjected. In this reſolve, therefore, we have only declared the rule, not eſtabliſhed it.

Of the concluding inſinuation contained in the proteſt, that, at the time when theſe reſolutions were adopted, "the right of enquiring into, and "complaining of, and petitioning and remonſtrating againſt the proceedings "of this Houſe, by the people out of the Houſe, was brought into queſtion," we can only ſay, that if ſuch a queſtion ever has been agitated in this Houſe, it muſt have been by or amongſt the diſſentients. We know nothing of it.

Lawrence Sickle,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Rawle,
Francis Gurney,
Samuel Aſhmead,
Thomas Britton,
Richard Thomas,
John Carſon,
Richard Downing, jun.
Henry Dering,
John Chapman,
Jonathan Roberts,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Miller,
Thomas Lilley,
William Godfrey,
Jacob Schmyſer,
James Vaux,
Obadiah Gore,
Thomas Ryerſon,
David Stewart,
James Bryan,
John Stewart,
Benjamin Markley,
Richard Riley,
Thomas Paul,
John White.

REASONS of DISSENT againſt the Reſolution of March *30th*, 1790, *for reprimanding* JOHN NICHOLSON, *Eſquire.*

1ſt. BECAUSE we are convinced that Mr. *Nicholſon* has done nothing, but what by the expreſs terms of our conſtitution (which we have all ſolemnly ſworn to obſerve) every citizen of this commonwealth is warranted to do. Conceiving himſelf aggrieved and injured by the miſrepreſentations of a member of this Houſe, he has written a letter to the Speaker, complaining of ſuch miſrepreſentations as are injurious to him, and has put his letter into print. For by the ſixteenth ſection of the bill of rights, the people of this commonwealth have a right "to apply to the Legiſlature for "redreſs of grievances, by addreſs, petition or remonſtrance." By the fourteenth and fifteenth ſections of the frame of government it is required that "the proceedings of the Legiſlature be public, and that they be ſubject "to the conſideration of the people;" and by the thirty-fifth ſection, "the "printing preſſes ſhall be free to every perſon, who undertakes to examine "the proceedings of any part of government."

2d. Becauſe we think that the right of complaint by thoſe who conceive themſelves injured is one of thoſe principles which ought to ſubſiſt in every form of government, and that no public body ſhould be ſo ſacred as to preclude the complaints of thoſe who believe themſelves aggrieved by that body, or any member of it. If the complaints are well-founded, they ought to be redreſſed, if important, they ought to be examined, and if trivial, or even unfounded, in our opinion it is moſt conſiſtent with real dignity to paſs them by with neglect. In the preſent caſe, as the complaint was of an important nature to the government, as well as to the individual complaining, we think that it was the duty of the Houſe to have calmly and diſpaſſionately examined into the truth of it, inſtead of adopting haſty reſolutions, which could have no good tendency, but is calculated to ſtifle enquiry, to promote heats, and revive that ſpirit of party and diſcord which we hoped had ſubſided in the breaſts of all good men, and to abridge the juſt rights of the citizen.

3d. Becauſe we are fully convinced that the complaint was well founded, and therefore that he has been moſt injuriouſly treated by the proceedings of the Houſe.

4th. For that the claim of privilege in the preſent caſe was, in our opinion, not only uſeleſs, but miſchievous, as the pretence of protecting a member of the Houſe, whoſe attendance was not interrupted, and whoſe perſon or property was neither injured nor threatened, appears to us to be frivolous and unfounded; and we cannot ſee the neceſſity or advantage of protecting the whole, or any part of the legiſlature, from an inveſtigation into the truth of what is aſſerted or declared, either openly and publicly, or in private communications among the members. Our conſtitution intended that the Houſe ſhould derive all poſſible light and information, as well from without the walls, as within, and we are acting in diametrical oppoſition to the ſpirit of the conſtitution, when we attempt to bar up the paſſage againſt information from without.

5th. Becauſe it appears to us both unjuſt and impolitic; unjuſt, becauſe it is making the law to follow the crime, and conſequently a retroſpective law; impolitic at this enlightened period, when ſome of the governments in *Europe* have relinquiſhed or ceaſed to exerciſe their high pretenſions and deſpotic claims to privilege, and others are daily relinquiſhing them, for the Repreſentatives of the freemen of *Pennſylvania* to ſet up ſuch a claim, and exerciſe it in ſuch a manner as is not warranted by our conſtitution, and has ſcarcely a parallel in the moſt arbitrary government.

Thomas Kennedy,
John Nevil,
John Baird,
James Cunningham,
James Alliſon,
James Johnſton,
Jonathan Hoge,
James Marſhall,
John Moore,
John Gilchreeſt,
James Barr,
David Mitchell,
James Finley,
John Harris,
Nicholas Lutz,
John Ludwig,
Daniel Leinbach,
Jacob Miley,
Alexander Wright,
Samuel Maclay,
John Rhea.

DISSENTIENT from the Vote adopting the Report of the Committee in favour of repealing the Act, entituled " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the " lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned."

1ſt. BECAUSE we conſider the act, which the reſolution adopted by the Houſe propoſes to repeal, to be either in the nature of an abſolute, or a conditional grant to the *Connecticut Settlers.* If the latter, it has not yet been proved to our ſatisfaction that the inſurrection at *Wyoming,* which occaſioned the commiſſioners to fly, proceeded from a general determination to reſiſt the authority and reject the bounties of this ſtate, or from the turbulent diſpoſitions of ſome of the adherents of *John Franklin,* who were incenſed at his ſudden and ſecret arreſt, few of whom could derive any benefit from the law which the commiſſioners were then carrying into execution; and, conſequently, it has not appeared, with that clearneſs which the importance of the ſubject requires, that there has been any breach of the implied condition of the law, *viz.* that the *Connecticut Settlers* would ſubmit to the authority of the ſtate.

2d. Becauſe, if the grant is abſolute, it is obligatory upon the ſtate, and can only be revoked upon the terms mentioned hereafter.

We conceive that a law veſting an intereſt conveys the moſt ſolemn and authentic title that can be annexed to property, after which the ſtate has not the ſame power over the law, which it moſt unqueſtionably poſſeſſes over its own acts of another nature. But in no inſtance can the power of repealing laws affect their obligation while in force, and, conſequently, if the effect of the law while in force is permanent and perpetual upon the ſubject to which it relates, a repeal, although it may deſtroy the law, cannot diminiſh the effect it has already produced.

3d. Becauſe, although it is univerſally conceded that private property may at any time be taken for public uſes, yet it can only be ſo taken upon condition of making full and adequate compenſation to the private proprietor; and hence it *may* follow that the ſtate, from whatever motives, having conveyed the title to the lands in diſpute, under certain terms and modifications, to the *Connecticut Settlers,* will, at a future day, be liable to make a more expenſive compenſation to thoſe ſettlers, than the whole amount of the demands of the *Pennſylvania Claimants.*

4th. Becauſe it is introducing a moſt dangerous principle to repeal a law of any kind, from an impreſſion, however ſtrong, that the Legiſlature was deceived at the time of paſſing the law. A law contrary to the conſtitution may and ought to be repealed; for in that inſtance there is a certain guide, which, although it may be diſobeyed, cannot be miſunderſtood: But to paſs our own judgment, in a legiſlative manner, upon the ſufficiency of the motives which induced a former Aſſembly to enact a law of the nature of that which it is now propoſed to repeal, and to collect thoſe motives from other ſources than the law itſelf, appears to us to endanger the authority even of our own proceedings, by rendering them liable at a future day to be ſubverted in the ſame manner, with perhaps ſtill leſs evidence than we have had to proceed upon. And it will directly tend to deſtroy the order, ſafety and happineſs derived from civil ſociety; for, as the obligation of the laws is rendered leſs ſolemn and concluſive, the Legiſlature will naturally become leſs impreſſed with their importance, and the people will gradually learn to diſregard their authority.

William Rawle,	*Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
Richard Thomas,	*Henry Dering,*
Richard Downing, jun.	*Samuel Aſhmead,*
Lawrence Sickle,	*Obadiah Gore,*
Jonathan Roberts,	*Herman Huſband.*

DISSENTIENT from the Vote for enacting the Law, entituled " *An* " *Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming " to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

1ſt. BECAUSE the paſſing of the bill into a law in the ſame ſeſſion in which it originated, and within eight days after it was firſt read in the Houſe, is, beyond all example heretofore furniſhed by the rage or folly of party, a flagrant violation of the conſtitution, which declares, that, " to " the end that laws before they are enacted may be more maturely conſidered, " and the inconvenience of haſty determinations as much as poſſible pre- " vented, all bills of a public nature ſhall be printed for the conſideration " of the people, before they are read in General Aſſembly the laſt time for " debate, and, except on occaſion of ſudden neceſſity, ſhall not be paſſed " into laws until the next ſeſſion of Aſſembly."

That this bill was of " a public nature," all, who have underſtanding to comprehend, and candor to acknowledge, the obvious meaning of words, muſt confeſs; inaſmuch as the compenſation to be made to the *Pennſylvania Claimants* related to the whole ſtate, and affected all its members; and no one will have the effrontery to ſay, that any " occaſion of ſudden " neceſſity" had occurred, for diſpenſing with the expreſs proviſion of the Conſtitution. This wanton precipitation in paſſing the bill is inconſiſtent with its preamble, in which one motive aſſigned for the repeal of the confirming law is, that it was paſſed haſtily and without due conſideration had; and another contradiction, equally glaring, is, that, after ſtating that the ſaid act diveſted many citizens of this ſtate of their lands without their conſent, *and without making them any juſt compenſation,* it aſſigns as a reaſon for the repeal, that the carrying ſaid act into effect would impoſe a grievous burthen on the good citizens of this ſtate, to *make compenſation* to thoſe who would thereby be diveſted of their property.

The Conſtitution further declares, that " for the more perfect ſatisfaction " of the public, the reaſons and motives for making laws ſhall be fully and " clearly expreſſed in the preambles." Whatever might be the reaſons and motives for paſſing the bill, the facts aſſumed in the preamble, but which were neither proved nor admitted, ſeem to have been intended to give colour to a proceeding which ſtood in need of it, if not to bring reproach on a former Houſe, equally reſpectable, at leaſt, as the preſent one for wiſdom and virtue.

2dly. Becauſe the Houſe had no proper evidence in ſupport of the allegations contained in the preamble, and refuſed to enquire, either in the Houſe, or in a committee of the whole Houſe, whether they were true or not. In a meaſure highly intereſting to the honor, dignity and juſtice of the ſtate; in a meaſure conſigning to miſery and ruin many hundred families, who had truſted to its good faith; and calculated to bring ſevere and unmerited reproach on a former Aſſembly, a decent regard for the opinions of men ſhould have induced the Houſe to have heard the evidence which was called for, ſo as to give ſome ſemblance of juſtice to their proceedings. This was nevertheleſs refuſed, and an example ſet, for preferring rumour to facts, aſſertion to proof, and conjecture to full and compleat information. A ſolemn vote precluded proper enquiry, and then the Houſe, aſſuming facts, aſſigned them as grounds for repealing a law founded in wiſdom, juſtice and ſound policy. If this proceeding is not a mockery of juſtice, and ſatire on the Houſe, it muſt be admitted to be of the moſt dangerous example.

3dly. Becauſe the confirming act was founded in *wiſdom and ſound policy*, and the allegations in the preamble to the bill for repealing it, that it "was "unconſtitutional, and of the moſt dangerous conſequence," and that "the "reaſons ſet forth in the preamble of the ſaid act do not appear ſufficient to "warrant any legiſlative interference," are without foundation.

The *ſalus populi*, or ſafety of the people, is the ſupreme law of the land, to which all inferior rights and regulations muſt yield. They originate from and are auxiliary to ſociety, and may, on reaſonable compenſation made, be lawfully reſumed, whenever the great ends thereof require it, *for the accompliſhment of ſome great good, or to avert an impending evil.* Theſe important truths reſult from the very nature of ſociety and the firſt principles of government. They are ſanctioned by the opinions of individuals, and the practice of nations. They are confirmed in abundant inſtances by our municipal laws, and recognized by our bill of rights. The Legiſlature who enacted that law were neither ſo weak nor ſo wicked, as men, leſs informed and not more virtuous, have ſuppoſed them to have been. The ſtate of the Commonwealth called for the ſyſtem which they adopted; and had a policy equally juſt and wiſe been ſince purſued, the faith of *Pennſylvania* would not have been broken, or her honor tainted by her own ſons.

If the Houſe had deigned to enquire for themſelves of witneſſes at the bar, or in committee of the whole, inſtead of truſting to others, the truth might have appeared on our journals, and a curious ſpectacle would have been exhibited by contraſting it with the preamble of the bill. But the hurry with which they charged a former Houſe with proceeding "haſtily, and without due conſideration had," not admitting of the neceſſary enquiries, has expoſed them to that cenſure which has been wrongfully imputed to others. The conduct of the Legiſlature in *November* 1787, when the ſame buſineſs came before them, was very different. Inſtead of liſtening to idle rumours, they called witneſſes to their bar, and examined for themſelves. They had written documents laid before them, and became well acquainted with all the facts which led to the quieting act, as well as with its effects. The charter boundaries of *Pennſylvania* and *Connecticut* were ſuppoſed to claſh, and had been long conteſted before and ſince the revolution. Each aſſerted her claims to the country at and about *Wyoming*, and manifeſted a reſolution to maintain them at every hazard. The *Connecticut Claimants* ſettled themſelves on the lands, under grants from the *Suſquehanna Company*, and the patronage of *Connecticut*. They maintained and cultivated their lands till the decree at *Trenton* in 1782. That decree ſettled the rights of ſoil and territory, as between the contending ſtates, in favour of *Pennſylvania*; but it neither did, nor poſſibly could, affect the private rights of individuals. The Judges who pronounced that decree, nevertheleſs, became well acquainted with the nature of the ſettlements, and the equity reſulting from them. Under the impreſſions made thereby, they wrote a letter to the Executive Authority of *Pennſylvania*, which is perhaps loſt, but the following account of it has been given by one of the ſame Judges in a ſubſequent letter.

" We had very ſtrong reaſons for writing the letter to the Preſident of " *Pennſylvania*. We were fully accquainted with the peculiar circum- " ſtances of the *New-England* ſettlers. We knew that many of them had " honeſtly paid for their poſſeſſions; that they verily believed the title un- " der which they claimed to be perfectly good; that they had cleared, " built upon, and improved the land; that in doing this they had encoun- " tered many dangers, and ſuffered innumerable hardſhips; and, beyond " all theſe things, and what cannot be eſtimated, many of their neareſt " connections had ſpilt their blood in defence of their poſſeſſions.

" Thus circumſtanced, it was manifeſt that they had become enthuſiaſts " for the land; that the reaſoning of legiſlators and ſtateſmen would have " but little weight with them; that if the ſtate ſhould attempt to diſpoſſeſs " them, they would become deſperate, and a civil war would be the con- " ſequence. On the contrary, if the ſtate ſhould quiet them in their poſ- " ſeſſions, they would become peaceable good citizens; and that the ſtate " could compenſate thoſe who held the *Pennſylvania* title, by giving them " an equivalent in lands or money, at a leſs expence than that of diſpoſ- " ſeſſing the *New-England* ſettlers. That therefore the intereſt, the huma- " nity, and the policy of the ſtate, would lead them to adopt the mea- " ſures that we recommended. The letter bore no official authority. We " ſubſcribed it as private citizens. Nevertheleſs, we did conceive that it " would have ſome weight, as it muſt be apparent that our means of in- " formation had been better than thoſe of any other perſons, who were " diſintereſted."

A different policy from that which had been ſo warmly recommended was adopted by *Pennſylvania*. She levied troops, and marched them into the hapleſs country to diſpoſſeſs the ſettlers, without any trial of their rights. The horrors of war were renewed, and, from the ſuppoſed inclemency of our meaſures, or ſome other cauſe, a dangerous confederacy was forming againſt us. The *Connecticut Claimants* were a bold and a hardy race of men, enured to toils, and trained to arms. Their enrolled militia, between the ages of eighteen and fifty-three years, amounted to ſix hundred and eighty-five, excluſive of thoſe of ſome townſhips, whoſe returns had not come to hand. Beſides theſe, it appeared that there were many able-bodied men among them, not between thoſe ages, but who were capable of being brought into action to great advantage, as occaſion might call for it. Many fruitleſs efforts had been made by *Pennſylvania*, at the expence of ſome blood and much treaſure, to ſubdue the country, and eſtabliſh her authority within it; but experience had evinced that the inhabitants, when aſſailed by a ſuperior force, only retreated to the faſtneſſes of a rugged country till that force was removed. Thus ſituated, they had for many years either kept *Pennſylvania* at bay, or made momentary retreats, as circumſtances dictated. At the time of paſſing the act, the affairs of that country had aſſumed a very different and ſtill more menacing aſpect.

The number of ſettlers was increaſing. The *Suſquehanna* Company, under whom they held, were compoſed of influential characters in the ſtates of *Connecticut* and *New-York*. The efforts of *Pennſylvania*, after the decree at *Trenton*, to diſpoſſeſs the ſettlers by an armed force, united that company in the reſolution to ſupport them. They offered a bounty of two hundred acres of land to every able-bodied man who would ſettle among them. Many had already accepted of theſe terms of enliſtment, and marched to the land of conflict. The ſettlers were emigrants from *Connecticut*, where their friends, connections and adherents remained. The legiſlature of *Connecticut*, their parent ſtate, which had by her public acts countenanced the forming of that ſettlement, were, to uſe the words of ſome of the witneſſes, in a flame, the moment they heard of the conduct of *Pennſylvania*, which they branded with the epithets of "cruel and unjuſt," and with much difficulty the cooler members abated their reſentment.

But danger did not threaten from theſe quarters only, and *Pennſylvania* had perhaps ſtill more to apprehend from another. It was made appear at the bar of the Houſe, and, if enquiry had not been precluded, it might have appeared again, that, ſhortly before the paſſing of the act, Col. *Ethan Allen*, one of the principal founders of *Vermont*, had been at *Wyoming*, and joined in the plan of erecting a new ſtate, and that he and his followers were to be rewarded by a ſhare of the lands for their ſervices; that he had returned home, as was probable from circumſtances, with the view of collecting his ſtrength, to carry the plan into execution. It would not have become *Pennſylvania* at any time, much leſs in her then feeble and diſtracted ſtate, to behold ſuch a dangerous combination with indifference, or to be inattentive to the breaking of it.

Nor was this all; for it appeared, from very reſpectable evidence given at the bar, that a gentleman of high rank in the late army had at the ſame time reſolved on marching, with a large train of his followers, to *Wyoming*, and, after ſettling there, to ſhare one common fate with thoſe, who had, alone, baffled *Pennſylvania* in all her attempts to expel them. And it is equally certain, that as the inſurrection in *Maſſachuſetts* had juſt been quelled, there was too much reaſon to fear that the ringleaders and their followers might take the ſame courſe. What was it but this, that induced *Pennſylvania* to offer additional rewards for apprehending them? Whether a miſtaken policy on the part of *Pennſylvania*, unmerited prejudice againſt her, or the feelings of humanity in favour of devoted victims, led to theſe confederacies, is not now material, ſince they did exiſt, and her faith was plighted by ſolemn compact in order to break them.

Thus ſituated, did ſound policy call for girding on the ſword againſt numerous bands of gathering foes, or for the adoption of thoſe lenient, but honorable, meaſures, which had been ſo warmly recommended by diſintereſted and well-informed judges? *Pennſylvania* remembered that the *Connecticut Claimants* had alone, and unſupported, for many years baffled all her exertions to eſtabliſh her authority among them. She had ſeen them increaſing in numbers and proweſs, amid all their difficulties. She ſaw dangerous combinations formed and forming againſt her. She ſaw herſelf but juſt emerged from a long, a burthenſome, and a bloody war. She ſaw her treaſures exhauſted, and her citizens overburthened with taxes. She ſaw a general reluctance, and ſometimes a refuſal in her militia, to riſk their lives in what was conſidered by ſome as the quarrel of individuals about their ſpeculations in lands. By party broils, ſhe was enervated at home, and, from the prejudice which had been excited by her preferring arms to the lenient, but dignified, meaſures, which had been recommended after the decree at *Trenton,* ſhe had but little to hope, and much to fear from abroad. Political exigencies determined her choice, and called for immediate action. A ſmall delay might have plunged her into a long and expenſive war, or obliged her to retreat with the loſs of reputation. For theſe reaſons, the act appears to have been founded in wiſdom, juſtice and ſound policy, and if the epithets now beſtowed on it apply at all, it muſt be to the bill for its repeal.

4thly. Becauſe the act hath, ſo far as depended on the *Connecticut Claimants,* had the effects propoſed, and the allegations to the contrary, in the preamble of the bill for its repeal, are unfounded. It was inconteſtably proved on a former occaſion, at the bar of the Houſe, that the *Connecticut Claimants,* whoſe rights had been acquired prior to the decree at *Trenton,* and who were the only perſons included in the act, were perfectly ſatisfied therewith; and that all of them, except ſix or eight, had ſubmitted to the government and laws of *Pennſylvania;* that all thoſe who had been diſpoſed to join them had abandoned their deſigns, except the half-ſhare men, who had come among them ſince the decree at *Trenton,* and who were not included in the act. Theſe, being too inſignificant to make any formidable oppoſition, have either abandoned the ſettlement, or, encouraged by the wavering conduct of *Pennſylvania,* remain ready to renew their miſchiefs, if, by her breach of faith, others ſhall be induced to join them.

Hence the moſt ſalutary effects have been derived from the law. A war, perhaps more expenſive than the compenſation to have been made, was avoided; peace and tranquility were reſtored, or rather took place for the firſt time. The government and laws of *Pennſylvania* have been eſtabliſhed and had their free operation, and allies, formidable from their numbers and ſituation, abandoned their hoſtile views.

Thus the great objects which the Legiſlature had in view, in paſſing the confirming law, have really been accompliſhed. They were principally theſe: 1ſt. To conciliate the minds of thoſe Claimants; to induce them to relinquiſh their deſigns of abſolutely rejecting the juriſdiction of this ſtate, and, in conjunction with others who had aſſociated and were preparing to aſſociate with them, of erecting a new and independent ſtate in that and the adjacent country. 2d. To put an end to the diſtreſſes, expence and bloodſhed, which during a ſeries of years had attended this diſpute; and to prevent the ſtill more ſerious evils of a civil war, which, not only a contrary policy, but even a delay of that ſalutary confirmation, were likely to produce, the meaſures which thoſe people were then purſuing having a direct tendency to that fatal iſſue. 3d. A further object of that law was, that, by having their lands confirmed to them, thoſe people might be induced, not only to relinquiſh the deſigns and meaſures already mentioned, but to ſubmit to the government, and become uſeful as well as peaceable citizens of this ſtate. 4th. Another object, and it was an object of high importance, was, to render practicable the ſettlement of an extenſive adjacent country, to which the contention about the *Wyoming* lands had for many years proved a fatal bar. Theſe were the great objects of the confirming law; theſe were the effects propoſed and expected to reſult from it; and the event has juſtified that expectation. The adjacent country is in a train of ſettlement; and if the county of *Luzerne* itſelf has not greatly increaſed in population and improvement, it is to be attributed to the long ſuſpenſion of the confirming law.

5thly. Becauſe the preamble contains moſt indecent and unwarrantable reflections on the Aſſembly, by which the confirming law was enacted. That Aſſembly was impreſſed with the weighty conſiderations above ſtated; conſiderations which received additional force from many collateral circumſtances, which a retroſpect to the numerous miſchiefs that had flowed from the diſpute about the *Wyoming* lands could not fail to bring to remembrance. That Aſſembly muſt have recollected the many fruitleſs attempts of government to extend its juriſdiction over that country, and have ſeen that the obſtacles to it were daily increaſing. They ſaw that there was but this alternative, either to confirm the lands to the old *Connecticut Settlers*, or immediately to raiſe a military force, with the hope of ſubduing them. They choſe the former, and diſintereſted men, of ſound judgment, approved the choice. It is well known, that at the time when that law paſſed the union of theſe ſtates was but a rope of ſand; that the people at *Wyoming*, amidſt many ſufferings and oppreſſions, received countenance from their parent ſtate, *Connecticut*; that they had numerous and intereſted connections in that ſtate; and that, under ſuch circumſtances, a war commenced againſt the *Wyoming Settlers* might have drawn after it very ſerious conſequences. A Legiſlature paſſing the confirming law, for ſuch reaſons and under ſuch impreſſions, ought not to be charged with doing it haſtily, and without due conſideration. It was a meaſure which we have ſeen had been recommended to the ſtate by men, to whoſe judgment, in this caſe, the higheſt deference was due, and whoſe diſcernment and impartiality ought not to be impeached by this Houſe. And various tranſactions of the Legiſlature, at different periods, before the confirming law was made, clearly manifeſt their opinion, that ſome equitable proviſion ought to be made for the *Connecticut Claimants*, who had ſettled in that country before the decree at *Trenton*, and for the widows and children of ſuch as had fallen (and a multitude of them *had fallen*) fighting againſt the ſavages. A law paſſed under ſuch circumſtances cannot juſtly be called unconſtitutional. At the time when the confirming law was paſſed, the General Aſſembly had the excluſive right and authority to judge of its expediency, propriety and neceſſity; and even admitting (what we do not admit) that the Aſſembly had on thoſe points formed an erroneous judgment, yet, ſo far as its grants or engagements extended, they are irrevocably binding on the ſtate, and cannot be cancelled without the conſent of thoſe to or with whom they were made.

6thly. Becauſe all the acts of the legiſlature which appear on their journals, ſince the confirming law was paſſed, manifeſt an intention ultimately to eſtabliſh the claims of the *Connecticut Claimants*. When accidental cauſes had rendered it impoſſible for all of them to exhibit their claims within the time preſcribed by the confirming law, the power of the commiſſioners was ſuſpended by a law, made for that purpoſe; leſt, by a partial eſtabliſhment of claims (which could apply only to ſuch as they had an opportunity to receive and examine) much miſchief and confuſion ſhould ariſe. But the ſuſpenſion of a law is in its nature only a temporary meaſure, and in this caſe it was expreſly declared to be only until the legiſlature ſhould make further proviſions and regulations in the premiſes. At the ſame time a bill was introduced, adopted, and publiſhed for conſideration, for the purpoſe of granting the ſeventeen towns entire to the *Connecticut Claimants*; a grant that there is ſufficient evidence to ſhew would greatly have exceeded the claims, which could have been admitted under the confirming law. The next day a reſolve was paſſed, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to take proper meaſures for aſcertaining the quantity and value of the lands claimed by *Pennſylvania* owners, to be reported at the next ſeſſion, "that the Houſe might "the better be enabled to decide upon the compenſation to be made them." All theſe tranſactions took place long after the confirming law had been enacted, and they will admit of but one of two meanings:—Either that the Legiſlature ſtill judged it proper and neceſſary ſubſtantially to carry the confirming law into execution, and meant eventually to do it; or, that the cogent reaſons which induced the paſſing of it ſtill continued in ſuch force, that a repeal of it would then have been dangerous, and, therefore, that the ſuſpending law, the bill for granting the ſeventeen towns entire, and the reſolution preparatory to the making compenſation to the *Pennſylvania Claimants*, were neceſſary, to excite in the *Connecticut* ſettlers an expectation of a final eſtabliſhment of their claims, to ſoothe and keep them quiet, to prevent any acceſſion of force, and to detach from them their new aſſociates; but that, when theſe views ſhould be accompliſhed, and when it ſhould be found that the juriſdiction of the commonwealth was completely eſtabliſhed in *Luzerne* county, the confirming law ſhould be repealed. But if ſome, by their conduct in this buſineſs, are diſpoſed to impute ſuch baſe and diſhonorable motives to a former legiſlature, we are not. The obvious conſtruction of thoſe public acts forbids the ſuſpicion.

7thly. Becauſe the grants of land ſolemnly made by the confirming law to the *Connecticut Claimants* aſſure to them effective titles, and the property thereby veſted in them cannot be taken from them, without providing for them a complete compenſation. But ſuch compenſation would far exceed that which has been engaged to the *Pennſylvania Claimants:* Therefore, if the mere *intereſt* of the ſtate be regarded, the confirming law ought not to be repealed. The journals and files of the Legiſlature clearly ſhew that the Aſſembly, which enacted the law for confirming to the *Connecticut Claimants* the lands by them claimed in the county of *Luzerne*, were not ignorant of the magnitude of their grant. The petition of thoſe claimants explicitly ſtates, that their claims extended through ſeventeen towns, generally of five miles ſquare, and to ſome detached lots; and the committee on that petition reported to the Aſſembly, that the petition was for entire and extenſive tracts. In addition to this, the law, by relative terms, refers to the petition, is founded upon and confined to it, and, as the claims are there ſtated, it is but a trifling with words to ſay, that "the Legiſla-"ture had not proper information of the magnitude of the grant."

8thly. Becauſe, if we ſhould ſay that at the time the confirming law was enacted there did not exiſt ſufficient reaſons for paſſing it; if we ſhould declare in the words of the preamble of the repealing law, "that it was "haſtily paſſed without due conſideration;" it would be to accuſe that Legiſlature of criminal improvidence, and inattention to their duty. But no ſubſequent Legiſlature can be juſtified in doing this, unleſs (which is impoſſible) they can ſee and feel all thoſe reaſons and impreſſions under which the law originated.

9thly. Becauſe, if the repealing law could poſſibly produce the effect intended by its ſupporters, it will nevertheleſs bring an indelible diſgrace on the ſtate. It will ſhew, that, not honor and juſtice, but mere mercenary views, governed its conduct; that it held itſelf bound by its contracts, only when a fulfilment of them coincided with its intereſt; and that, though by its laws it will compel the honeſt performance of diſadvantageous contracts entered into by individual citizens, yet in its own caſe, ſetting itſelf above the law, it will pay no regard to them.

10thly. Becauſe the formal repeal of the confirming law, while it proſtrates the faith, honor and dignity of the ſtate, will not procure any equivalent, if, in the nature of things, there can be any poſſible equivalent for the ſacrifice of thoſe great principles of ſociety and government; becauſe the repeal itſelf will be nugatory, for it is an infraction of the laws of nations, a violation of the conſtitution of the United States, an *ex poſt facto* law, a law violating the obligation of a ſolemn public compact, and the courts of the United States muſt pronounce it to be of no effect. Hence the folly of the repeal will equal its injuſtice; for there will not remain even the paltry conſideration of *intereſt* to conſole the ſtate for the loſs of its honor, dignity and faith. It is too probable that the miſchiefs reſulting from the meaſure may be ſerious in their nature, and of long continuance. Thoſe who were appeaſed by a good policy will be irritated by a faithleſs one; and thoſe who formerly joined them, from motives of humanity, may do it again, from the additional one of our having added treachery to violence. Whatever may be the event, we diſſent from the vote for paſſing the bill into a law, and deſire that our reaſons may be recorded in juſtification of our conduct, and for the information of our conſtituents.

William Lewis,
John Nevil,
Obadiah Gore,
Samuel Aſhmead,
Henry Dering.

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3 Sess of 14

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRD SESSION

OF THE FOURTEENTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on TUESDAY, the
twenty-fourth day of AUGUST, in the Year of our Lord
One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Ninety.

Tueſday, Auguſt 24, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,*

THAT Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Ryerſon* and Mr. *Rhea* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, Auguſt 25, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton*, *Lower Smithfield*, *Delaware*, and *Upper Smithfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, was read, ſetting forth, that by reaſon of the extent and ſituation of the ſaid townſhips, they are prevented from exerciſing the important privilege of ſuffrage at the general elections; therefore praying, that the townſhips of *Cheſtnut-hill*, *Hamilton* and *Lower Smithfield* may be erected into a ſeparate diſtrict, and authoriſed to hold their elections at the houſe now occupied by *John Huſton*, in *Hamilton* townſhip aforeſaid, and that the townſhips of *Delaware* and *Upper Smithfield* may be erected into a diſtrict, and the freemen thereof authoriſed to hold their elections at the houſe of *John Van Atten*, in *Delaware* townſhip aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the Juſtices of the Peace, Grand Jury, Sheriff, Commiſſioners, and others, inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, was read, ſetting forth, that the adjourned Court of Common Pleas for the county of *Philadelphia* and the Quarterly Meeting of the religious ſociety of people called Quakers being held at the ſame time appointed by law for holding the courts within the ſaid county, many perſons are prevented from attending the ſaid courts, to the great injury and delay of public buſineſs; therefore praying they may by law be enabled in future to hold the ſaid courts on the firſt *Monday* in the months, reſpectively, in which they are now holden.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of that part of the county of *Allegheny*, which lies between *Raccoon* creek and the State line, was read, praying they may be re-annexed to the county of *Waſhington*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported—That they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council have buſineſs, which they will tranſmit to the Houſe to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, Auguſt 26, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE ſend herewith the following acts and reſolutions of the Congreſs of the United States, which we have received ſince your adjournment in *April* laſt.

An Act for giving effect to the ſeveral acts therein mentioned, in reſpect to the State of North-Carolina, *and for other purpoſes.*

An Act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States.

An Act making appropriations for the ſupport of government for the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety.

An Act to eſtabliſh an uniform rule of naturalization.

An Act to prevent the exportation of goods not duly inſpected according to the laws of the ſeveral States.

An Act to accept a ceſſion of the claims of the State of North-Carolina *to a certain diſtrict of Weſtern Territory.*

An Act to promote the progreſs of uſeful arts.

An Act further to ſuſpend part of an act, entituled " An Act to regulate " the collection of the duties impoſed by law on the tonnage of ſhips or " veſſels, and on goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into the United " States," *and to amend the ſaid act.*

An Act for the puniſhment of certain crimes againſt the United States.

An Act for regulating the military eſtabliſhment of the United States.

An Act to provide for mitigating or remitting the forfeitures and penalties accruing under the revenue laws, in certain caſes therein mentioned.

An Act to continue in force an act, paſſed at the laſt ſeſſion of Congreſs, entituled " An Act to regulate proceſſes in the courts of the United States."

An Act to preſcribe the mode in which the public acts, records and judicial proceedings in each State ſhall be authenticated, ſo as to take effect in every other State.

An Act for the government of the territory of the United States, ſouth of the river Ohio.

An Act for the encouragement of learning, by ſecuring the copies of maps, charts and books to the authors and proprietors of ſuch copies, during the times therein mentioned.

An Act for finally adjuſting and ſatisfying the claims of Frederick William De Steuben.

An Act for giving effect to an act, entituled " An Act to eſtabliſh the Judicial Courts of the United States within the State of *North-Carolina*."

An Act ſupplemental to the act for eſtabliſhing the ſalaries of the executive officers of government, with their aſſiſtants and clerks.

An Act for giving effect to the ſeveral acts therein mentioned, in reſpect to the State of Rhode-Iſland *and* Providence Plantations.

An Act for the relief of Thomas Jenkins *and Company.*

An Act for giving effect to an act, entituled " An Act to eſtabliſh the Judicial Courts of the United States within the State of *Rhode-Iſland* and " *Providence Plantations*."

An Act providing the means of intercourſe between the United States and foreign nations.

An Act to ſatisfy the claims of John M'Cord *againſt the United States.*

An Act for the relief of Nathaniel Twining.

An Act for giving effect to an act, entituled " An Act providing for the " enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, in reſpect to the State " of *Rhode-Iſland* and *Providence Plantations*."

An Act to authoriſe the purchaſe of a tract of land for the uſe of the United States.

An Act for eſtabliſhing the temporary and permanent ſeat of government of the United States.

An Act further to provide for the payment of the invalid penſioners of the United States.

An Act for the government and regulation of ſeamen in the merchants ſervice.

An Act impoſing duties on the tonnage of ſhips or veſſels.

An Act to regulate trade and intercourſe with the Indian *tribes.*

An Act providing for the holding a treaty or treaties to eſtabliſh peace with certain Indian *tribes.*

An Act to amend the act for the eſtabliſhment and ſupport of light-houſes, beacons, buoys and public piers.

An Act to continue in force for a limited time an act, entituled " An Act " for the temporary eſtabliſhment of the poſt-office."

An Act for the relief of John Stewart *and* John Davidſon.

An Act making proviſion for the debt of the United States.

An Act to provide more effectually for the collection of the duties impoſed by law on goods, wares and merchandize, imported into the United States, and on the tonnage of ſhips or veſſels.

An Act to provide more effectually for the ſettlement of the accounts between the United States and the individual States.

A Reſolution reſpecting the arrears of pay due to the troops of the lines of the States of Virginia *and* North-Carolina.

A Reſolution for the publication of treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under the authority of the United States.

A Reſolution making allowance for the ſervice of the clerks employed in the office of the Commiſſioners of army accounts; and

A Reſolution to defray the expence of procuring ſeals for the Supreme, Circuit and Diſtrict Courts of the United States.

We tranſmit a letter from the Delegates of this State in the Congreſs of the United States, on the ſubject of the temporary and permanent ſeat of the general government.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, Auguſt 26th, 1790.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That ſo much of the ſaid meſſage, as relates to the letter from the Delegates repreſenting this State in the Congreſs of the United States, together with the ſaid letter, be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Hoge,* Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Lloyd,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the fifth election diſtrict within the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying they may be authoriſed to hold their elections at *Aaronſburg.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Morris* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath at a conſiderable expence erected a ferry acroſs the river *Juniata,* at the lower end of a place called *Jack*'s *Narrows,* and praying the excluſive right of keeping the ſaid ferry may be veſted in him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to a reſolution of this Houſe of the 18th day of *March* laſt, *John Byers*, one of the Commiſſioners appointed *March* 22d, 1784, to view and examine the road leading from *Conrad Minick*'s to *Sunbury*, and to mark and lay out a road the neareſt and beſt the country will admit, &c. made report of the proceedings of ſaid Commiſſioners, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation of the Maſter-Warden, on behalf of himſelf and the Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the act of Aſſembly appropriating the duties of tonnage for their ſervices, and contingent expences, hath been in part ſuperſeded by an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, but that divers duties ſtill remain to be performed by the ſaid Wardens under the operation of the act of Aſſembly aforeſaid, in the performance whereof they have afforded their ſervices, and for which they have received no compenſation; and praying the Houſe would take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton*, *Lower Smithfield*, *Delaware*, and *Upper Smithfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Northampton* county, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of that part of *Allegheny* county, which lies between *Raccoon* creek and the ſtate line, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Vaux*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the Juſtices of the Peace, Grand Jury, Sheriff, Commiſſioners, and other inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Paul* and Mr. *Lloyd*, to report thereon.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, Auguſt 27, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the ſecond election diſtrict in the county of *Waſhington* were read, praying that a certain part of the ſaid county may be erected into an election diſtrict, and the inhabitants authoriſed to hold their elections at the houſe now occupied by *David Hamilton*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the ſecond election diſtrict in the county of *Waſhington* were read, remonſtrating againſt altering the place for holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York*, reſiding on the waters of *Yellow-Breeches* creek, were read, praying, that agreeably to the lines deſcribed in the ſaid petitions they may be annexed to the county of *Cumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburg*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, that by a late act of the Legiſlature, for aſcertaining the boundary lines between the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, a ſmall part of the ſaid townſhip falls within the county of *Franklin* aforeſaid, and praying the ſame may be re-annexed to the county of *Cumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and repreſentation from the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia*, in Common-Council aſſembled, was read, ſuggeſting, that the public buildings at preſent in the ſaid city are inadequate to the reception of Congreſs; therefore praying this Houſe to enable them, or ſome other body of men, to erect ſuch buildings as may be neceſſary, ſuitable and convenient for that purpoſe, as well as for the reception and reſidence of the Preſident of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The repreſentation of the Maſter-Warden, on behalf of himſelf and the Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton*, *Lower Smithfield*, *Delaware*, and *Upper Smithfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton*, *Lower Smithfield*, *Delaware*, and *Upper Smithfield* townſhips, in the county of *Northampton*, beg leave to report——

That the circumſtances and ſituation of the petitioners are really ſuch as ſet forth in the ſaid petition, and that the prayer of the ſame is juſt and reaſonable. Wherefore they ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for erecting the townſhips of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton* and *Lower Smithfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, into an election diſtrict; and for erecting the townſhips of *Delaware* and *Upper Smithfield* alſo into an election diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act
" for the attainder of divers traitors, if they render not themſelves by a cer-
" tain day, and for veſting their eſtates in the commonwealth, and for more
" effectually diſcovering the ſame, and for aſcertaining and ſatisfying the
" lawful debts and claims thereon," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, Auguſt 28, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1223 inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin* were read, remonſtrating againſt the ſeat of juſtice for the ſaid county being fixed at the mouth of *Kiſhecoquillis* creek, and praying the act paſſed for erecting the ſaid county may be altered and amended agreeably to the bill publiſhed for conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John M'Kibben* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath been by due courſe of law diſpoſſeſſed of a tract of land in the county of *Waſhington*, by him claimed under a warrant iſſued from the land-office of this ſtate, and praying he may be authoriſed to locate the ſaid warrant within the donation lands ſet apart for the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, ſetting forth, that the road laid out and opened between the waters of the *Frank's-town* branch of *Juniata* and the *Conemaugh* river, agreeably to an act of Aſſembly paſſed 29th *March*, 1787, will not anſwer the valuable purpoſes thereby intended, in as much as it runs through a very rough and uninhabited country; and praying a law may be paſſed, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners to review the ſaid road, and, if they think proper, to alter the courſes thereof, and to draw upon the State Treaſurer for a further ſum, in addition to what has been already granted for the aforeſaid purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the paſtor, elders and members of the Preſbyterian congregation at *Middle Spring*, in the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A memorial from the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia*, in Common-Council aſſembled, was read, containing their objections to the building a powder-magazine within the limits of the city, on account of the danger to be apprehended therefrom; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Hoge*, with inſtructions to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the ſaid ſubject, and report thereon.

A petition from *Jeremiah Reeſe* was read, praying he may be by law enabled to erect and maintain a tumbling-dam acroſs *Conedogwinet* creek, within two or three miles of the mouth thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Charles Smith* and *Simon Snyder*, Eſquires, was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its incloſures, *viz.*

Depoſitions, tending to prove that undue means had been uſed to bring about a diſmemberment of part of *Beaver-dam* townſhip from the county of *Northumberland*; and

A petition from the inhabitants of the weſt end of *Beaver-dam* townſhip, in the county of *Northumberland*, praying they may not be annexed to the county of *Mifflin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York*, reſiding on the waters of *Yellow-Breeches* creek, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Dering*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *D. Stewart*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the fifth election diſtrict in the county of *Northumberland*, read *Auguſt* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *White*, to report thereon.

The memorial of the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of *Philadelphia*, in Common-Council aſſembled, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Ealer* and Mr. *Lloyd*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburg*, in the county of *Cumberland*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Creight*, to report thereon.

The petitions of the inhabitants of the ſecond election diſtrict in the county of *Waſhington*, relative to the place for holding their general elections, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Baird* and Mr. *Rhea*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on the petition of the Juſtices, Grand Jury, Sheriff, and other inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Juſtices, Grand Jury, Sheriff, and other inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, report——

That in their opinion it would conduce to the convenience of perſons having buſineſs to tranſact in the courts of Common Pleas and Quarter Seſſions of the ſaid county, to alter the time of holding the courts according to the requeſt of the petitioners: The following reſolution is therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Juſtices, Grand Jury, Sheriff, and other inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, be granted, and the ſaid petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of altering the time of holding the ſeveral county courts of law within the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report in part, *viz.*

A report of the Regiſter-General of public accounts, relative to the revenues and expenditures of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*; which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *Gurney*,

Ordered, That two hundred copies of the ſaid report from the Regiſter-General be printed, for the uſe of the members of the General Aſſembly.

The report on the petition of the inhabitants of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton*, *Lower Smithfield*, *Delaware* and *Upper Smithfield* townſhips, in the county of *Northampton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for erecting the townſhips of *Cheſnut-hill*, *Hamilton* and *Lower Smithfield*, in the county of *Northampton*, into an election diſtrict; and for erecting the townſhips of *Delaware* and *Upper Smithfield* alſo into an election diſtrict.

Ordered, That the members from *Northampton* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, Auguſt 30, 1790. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 160 inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, were read, praying ſaid townſhip may be re-annexed to the county of *Lancaſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and memorial from *Adam Hubley*, *William Shannon* and *John Chaloner*, Auctioneers, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to repeal ſo much of the preſent laws for the regulation of auctions and Auctioneers, as prohibits licenſed Auctioneers from holding public ſales within the diſtricts of each other.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon*, read *Auguſt* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *D. Stewart*, to report thereon.

The petition of ſundry inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Hopkins*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of the Juſtices, Grand Jury, Sheriff, and others, inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, read *Auguſt* 28th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Juſtices, Grand Jury, Sheriff, and other inhabitants of the county of *Delaware*, be granted, and the ſaid petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of altering the time of holding their ſeveral courts of law within the ſaid county.

The report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read *April* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, declaring *Chartier*'s creek, in *Waſhington* county, to be a public highway.

Ordered, That the ſame committee who made the report be a committee, to bring in a bill for the aforeſaid purpoſe.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for altering certain election diſtricts in the county of* Northampton," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to alter the time of holding the County Courts of Common* "*Pleas and Quarter Seſſions for the county of* Delaware," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Rawle*, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act*, "*entituled* "An Act to reform the penal laws of this ſtate;" and, having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for raiſing, by way of Lottery, the ſum of* "ſeven hundred and twenty-three pounds fifteen ſhillings, *for defraying* "*the expence of erecting an Academy and Parſonage-houſe in the borough of* "York," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, Auguſt 31, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council was read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

UNDER the authority of a reſolution of Aſſembly of the thirty-firſt of *March* laſt, we appointed *Timothy Matlack*, *John Adlum* and *Samuel Maclay* to examine and ſurvey the *Quittapahilla*, the *Swatara*, and parts of the *Suſquehanna* and *Juniata* rivers, and aſſigned to *Frederick Antes*, *Reading Howell* and *William Dean* the buſineſs of exploring the country near the head waters of the *Delaware*, of the eaſt branch of *Suſquehanna*, and of the rivers *Lehigh* and *Schuylkill*.—The Commiſſioners ſet out on the duties of their reſpective departments in *May*; but we have not received any communications from them.

In compliance with the reſolution of your honorable Houſe of the ſixth of *April*, we have purchaſed a convenient lot of ground for *five hundred and ſixty-five pounds* ſpecie, and conſiderable progreſs is made in erecting upon it a magazine for gun-powder. It will be neceſſary to provide by law for paying the price of the lot and the expence of the building, which, as nearly as we can at preſent aſcertain, will be *one thouſand nine hundred and ſeventy-five pounds*. And we are of opinion that it will likewiſe be proper to give a legiſlative ſanction to the ſtorage of powder belonging to private citizens, as ſoon as that magazine will be ready to receive it.

We have not been able to carry into effect the intention of the Legiſlature expreſſed by the act of the ſixth of *April*, as no one has been willing to undertake to put the banks of *Mud-Iſland* into good repair for the ſum appropriated by the law: We conceive that *twelve hundred pounds* will be requiſite for that purpoſe.

The adjuſtment of the claims of individual ſtates againſt the United States being an object of conſiderable moment, ſeveral ſtates had appointed agents to attend to the ſettlement of their reſpective accounts before the commiſſioners appointed by Congreſs; and therefore, in conformity to the ſentiments of our Delegates, as well as the obvious utility of the meaſure, we have during your receſs employed *Charles Pettit*, Eſquire, for that purpoſe, as an agent on behalf of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*. The letter from our Delegates, and a letter from Mr. *Pettit* reſpecting the buſineſs of his agency, we incloſe, together with a letter from the Comptroller-General upon the ſtate of the public accounts.

Council being called upon to diſcharge the balance due to *Robert Galbraith*, Eſquire, on his contract for opening the road from *Frank*'s-*town* to *Connemaugh*, we lay before your honorable Houſe the information we have received with reſpect to the execution of that contract from *William Findley*, Eſquire, a member of Council, who at our requeſt has examined the road, and thinks it has been laid out conformably to Mr. *Galbraith*'s undertaking.

We tranſmit a letter from the Attorney-General, on account of the opinion therein expreſſed, "that it would be ſound policy to eſtabliſh a rule of reciprocity with the nations of *Europe*, by an act of the Legiſlature, declaring the ſubjects of thoſe ſtates, in which our citizens are permitted to enjoy real property deviſed or deſcending to them, capable of a ſimilar privilege in *Pennſylvania*." The act of the eleventh of *February* 1789, which enables aliens to purchaſe and hold lands in this commonwealth, will ſoon expire by its own limitation; and we conceive that a general and permanent rule on this important ſubject ought now to be adopted. How far that which is ſuggeſted by the Attorney-General may be proper, we ſubmit to the wiſdom of the Legiſlature.

The Truſtees of the hoſpital on *State-Iſland* having repreſented to us that the wharf on the *Delaware*, for the landing of ſick paſſengers who may be ſent to the hoſpital, is in ſo ruinous a condition, that, unleſs ſpeedily repaired, it muſt be entirely deſtroyed, we incloſe their memorial, and recommend it to the attention of the Legiſlature.

We ſincerely lament the occaſion of laying before you the depoſitions of ſeveral perſons, from which it appears, that in *June* laſt two friendly *Indians* were barbarouſly murdered on *Pine* creek, *Northumberland* county. In order to manifeſt our abhorrence of the crime, and to obtain, if poſſible, the perſons of the offenders, a proclamation was iſſued by Council, offering a reward of *eight hundred dollars* for apprehending them, and ſuch other ſteps have been taken upon this occaſion, as will we hope effectually appeaſe the reſentment of the *Indians*, and prevent any danger of retaliation.

A deſire to promote a good underſtanding with the *Indians* who reſide within the limits of this ſtate has likewiſe induced us to acquieſce in the wiſh, which *Corn-Planter* and other Chiefs of the Six Nations have expreſſed to viſit *Philadelphia*, three of whom we have accordingly invited, and they will probably arrive in the courſe of a few days.

The following acts and reſolution of Congreſs, which were received on *Saturday*, we tranſmit for your information:

An Act making further proviſion for the payment of the debts of the United States.

An Act to enable the officers and ſoldiers of the Virginia *line, on continental eſtabliſhment, to obtain titles to certain lands lying northweſt of the river* Ohio, *between the little* Miami *and* Sciota.

An Act authoriſing the Secretary of the Treaſury to finiſh the light-houſe on Portland-Head, *in the diſtrict of* Maine.

An Act declaring the aſſent of Congreſs to certain acts of the ſtates of Maryland, Georgia, *and* Rhode-Iſland *and* Providence Plantations.

An Act for the relief of the perſons therein mentioned or deſcribed.

An Act for the relief of diſabled ſoldiers and ſeamen, lately in the ſervice of the United States, and of certain other perſons.

An Act for altering the times for holding the Circuit Courts of the United States in the diſtricts of South-Carolina *and* Georgia, *and providing that the Diſtrict Court of* Pennſylvania *ſhall in future be held at the city of* Philadelphia *only.*

An Act making certain appropriations therein mentioned.

An Act making proviſion for the reduction of the public debt. And

A Reſolution, directing that a return of certain ſurveys of lands in the Weſtern Territory be made to and perfected by the Secretary of the Treaſury.

A letter from the Honorable *Frederick Auguſtus Muhlenberg,* Eſq; Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, incloſing a reſolution of the Houſe, dated *May* the eighteenth laſt, reſpecting the terms for which the members of the preſent Congreſs were choſen, is alſo ſent herewith.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, Auguſt 31ſt, 1790.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſaid meſſage and papers be referred to Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Hoge* and Mr. *Johnſton,* to arrange the ſubject matters, and make report thereof.

A petition from 105 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the ſame county, read *March* 18th laſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the elders and truſtees of the Reformed and Lutheran congregations in the townſhip of *Maccungy,* in the county of *Northampton,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of enabling them to raiſe, by way of lottery, the ſum of *fifteen hundred dollars,* to diſcharge the debts incurred by erecting a houſe of public worſhip and ſchool-houſe for the uſe of the ſaid congregations.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Sotherin,* confined in the debtors apartment of the city and county of *Philadelphia* for debt, was read, praying he may be releaſed from further impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Blair,* of *Northumberland* county, was read, ſetting forth, that he mortgaged his land to the Truſtees of the General Loan-Office to ſecure the re-payment of a ſum of money by them loaned; that by reaſon of the depredations of the *Indians,* and other misfortunes, he is unable to diſcharge the ſame; and praying a further time may be allowed him for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Adam Hubley, William Shannon* and *John Chaloner,* Auctioneers, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Balliot,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John M'Kibben,* read *Auguſt* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Cunningham,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Vaux,* to report thereon.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation at* Middle Spring, *in the counties of* Cumberland *and* Franklin," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the election of Repreſentatives of this State in the Congreſs of the United States,*" was read the third time.

And in conſidering the firſt enacting clauſe, *viz.*

"Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the election of Repreſentatives, agreeably to the conſtitution of the United States and the directions of this act, to ſerve in the Congreſs of the United States, ſhall be held by the citizens thereof, qualified to vote for members of the General Aſſembly, on the ſecond *Tueſday* of *October* next, of which due notice ſhall be given by the Sheriffs of the reſpective counties, conformably to the acts of Aſſembly for regulating the general elections in this State, at the places in the city of *Philadelphia* and in the ſeveral counties reſpectively preſcribed by the election laws aforeſaid, and in like manner as in and by the ſaid laws is directed for the election of members of the General Aſſembly; and any perſon who may or ſhall be guilty of any neglect or abuſe of the ſaid laws, or of any part thereof, at any election to be held in purſuance of this act, may and ſhall be proſecuted and puniſhed in the ſame manner, as if he was guilty of the like neglects or abuſes in the election of Repreſentatives to ſerve in the General Aſſembly."

A motion was made by Mr. *D. Stewart,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,* to re-commit the ſaid bill, excepting the title and preamble, for the purpoſe of introducing a plan for dividing the ſtate into diſtricts, for chuſing Repreſentatives in the Congreſs for this ſtate, with inſtructions to the ſaid committee to introduce a clauſe or clauſes for that purpoſe.

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the motion to re-commit the ſaid bill for that purpoſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *David Stewart* and Mr. *Findley,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *John Stewart,*
2 *Herman Huſband,*
3 *James Barr,*
4 *James Alliſon,*
5 *James Marſhall,*
6 *John Gilchreeſt,*
7 *James Findley,*
8 *David Stewart.*

NAYS.

1 *Lawrence Sickle,*
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
3 *William Rawle,*
4 *Francis Gurney,*
5 *Samuel Aſhmead,*
6 *Thomas Paul,*
7 *Thomas Britton,*
8 *Elias Boys,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *James Bryan,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Richard Downing,* jun.
15 *Caleb James,*
16 *John M'Dowell,*

NAYS.

17 *James Clemſon*,
18 *John Hopkins*,
19 *Henry Dering*,
20 *James Cunningham*,
21 *Jacob Erb*,
22 *John Miller*,
23 *Joſeph Reed*,
24 *Jacob Schmyſer*,
25 *Thomas Lilley*,
26 *William Godfrey*,
27 *Thomas Kennedy*,
28 *Jonathan Hoge*,
29 *John Ludwig*,
30 *Nicholas Lutz*,
31 *Daniel Leinbach*,
32 *Peter Ealer*,
33 *Stephen Balliot*,

NAYS.

34 *Conrad Ihrie*, jun.
35 *Anthony Lerch*, jun.
36 *John Moore*,
37 *John White*,
38 *John Baird*,
39 *Alexander Wright*,
40 *James Johnſon*,
41 *John Rhea*,
42 *Jonathan Roberts*,
43 *James Vaux*,
44 *Jacob Miley*,
45 *James M'Creight*,
46 *Obadiah Gore*,
47 *John Nevil*,
48 *Hugh Lloyd*,
49 *Richard Riley*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And the bill recurring, the ſame was conſidered by paragraphs.

A motion was made by Mr. *Rawle*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*,

To amend the title, ſo as to read as follows, *viz*.

" *An Act to provide for the enſuing election of Repreſentatives of this ſtate* " *in the Congreſs of the United States*."

Which was determined in the affirmative; and thereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 1, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from the inhabitants of *Robeſon*, *Union*, *Caernarvon* and *Brecknock* townſhips, in the county of *Berks*, were read, praying they may be erected into an election diſtrict, and by law enabled to hold their general elections at the houſe now occupied by *John Klingeman*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Colebrockdale*, *Earl*, *Diſtrict* and *Hereford* townſhips, in the county of *Berks*, was read, praying they may by law be authoriſed to hold their general elections at the houſe now occupied by *Joſeph Muthard*, in *Colebrookdale* townſhip aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 206 inhabitants of that part of the *Northern-Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, which lies between the northern bounds of the ſaid city and *Pegg*'s run, and between the river *Delaware* and the middle of *Fourth-ſtreet*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to provide for the eſtabliſhment and ſupport of a ſuitable number of lamps, watchmen and pumps, in the ſaid diſtrict, by an equal tax on the eſtates of the inhabitants thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

IN our meſſage of the thirty-firſt of *Auguſt* we informed your Honorable Houſe, that two friendly *Indians* had been barbarouſly murdered in *June* laſt, by citizens of this ſtate, on *Pine* creek, and that we had taken meaſures for apprehending the murderers, and for preventing retaliation.

Mr. *King*, who was by order of Council diſpatched to the *Indian* country with a ſpeech, and with copies of the proclamation iſſued by Council for apprehending the murderers, returned laſt evening. He has brought a letter from Mr. *Phelps*, dated *Canandarque*, *Auguſt* the 14th, 1790, and a ſpeech from ſeveral Chiefs of the *Seneca* Nation, to which the two *Indians* who were murdered on *Pine* creek belonged; which letter and ſpeech we encloſe.

We conceive it to be of great importance to the welfare of the good people of this ſtate, that meaſures ſhould be immediately taken for quieting the minds of the *Indians*. We therefore requeſt a conference with a committee of the General Aſſembly this morning on the ſubject.

We tranſmit a letter from the State Treaſurer, relative to the loan-office; with an account of monies due to the commonwealth on mortgages prior to the revolution, which we recommend to the attention of your honorable Houſe.

A letter from *John Beckley*, Eſquire, Clerk of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States, and a copy of the journals of the proceedings of that Houſe, accompany this meſſage.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, September 1ſt, 1790.

And the papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *Nevil* be a committee, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on that part of the meſſage which relates to the murder of two *Indians* on *Pine* creek, and make report.

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage, together with the letter from the State Treaſurer relative to the Loan-Office, with an account of monies due to the commonwealth on mortgages prior to the revolution, be referred to Mr. *Gurney*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Balliot* and Mr. *White*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Blair*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of the elders and truſtees of the Reformed and Lutheran congregations in the townſhip of *Maccungy*, and county of *Northampton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Jeremiah Rees,* read *Auguſt* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cumberland* county, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* read *Auguſt* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Britton,* Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Kennedy,* to report thereon.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of* eight hundred " pounds, *for defraying the debts of the incorporated* German *Reformed con-* " *gregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks, *being for* " *their houſe of worſhip, parſonage and ſchool-houſe,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 2, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, ſtating the inconveniences they labour under by reaſon of the obſtructions to the fiſhery in *Dunning*'s creek and the *Ray*'s-*town* branch of *Juniata,* and praying the ſame may be declared public highways, from their junction to their firſt branches.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the ſubject of their meſſage of the firſt inſtant, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, in conſequence of their meſſage of the firſt of *September,* report, that they have performed the duty aſſigned to them.

The atrocious murder which appears to have been committed in *Northumberland* county not only requires immediate and vigorous exertion to puniſh it, on account of national juſtice, but the diſſatisfaction of the *Indians* equally demands immediate attention, to prevent the fatal conſequences which might enſue from unneceſſary delay, or apparent indeciſion.

The following reſolutions are therefore ſubmitted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe entertains the greateſt abhorrence of every action tending to interrupt the friendly intercourſe which has hitherto ſubſiſted with the *Indian* tribes within the limits of this ſtate, and will readily coincide in any requiſite meaſure to ſupport and continue it.

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the ſum of *one hundred pounds,* to be applied in ſuch manner as appears to them moſt expedient for the purpoſe of appeaſing the friends and relations of the two *Indians* lately murdered in the county of *Northumberland,* and of preſerving a good underſtanding with the nations to which they belonged; and that they alſo be authoriſed to draw on the Treaſurer for the neceſſary expences attending the ſame.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt, on the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council of the ſame day, to arrange the ſubject matters, and make report thereof, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council of the thirty-firſt ultimo, ſubmit the following reſolutions, *viz.*

Reſolved, That ſo much of the meſſage of Council as relates to the magazine for gun-powder be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the repairs of *Mud-Iſland* be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That ſo much of the meſſage of Council as refers to the appointment of an Agent on behalf of this ſtate, to endeavour to effect a ſettlement of accounts with the United States, be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the road from *Frank*'s-*town* to *Conemaugh,* and the balance claimed by *Robert Galbraith,* Eſquire, be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That ſo much of the meſſage of Council as relates to enabling aliens to purchaſe and hold lands within this ſtate be referred to a committee.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council which refers to the memorial of the Truſtees of the Hoſpital on *State-Iſland* be referred to a committee.

The reſidue of the meſſage, except what relates to the *Indians,* appears to be matter of information, on which it is unneceſſary to propoſe any reſolutions.

With regard to the intended friendly viſit of ſome of the Chiefs of the Six *Indian* Nations, the committee is ſo deeply impreſſed with the neceſſity of cultivating an amicable intercourſe with the tribes remaining within or near to this ſtate, ſo far as it can be conſtitutionally effected, that they conceive it requiſite to propoſe the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That proviſion be made for defraying the neceſſary expences which may ariſe from the viſit of ſome of the Chiefs of the Six *Indian* Nations, of which information has been communicated by the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That ſo much of the meſſage of Council as relates to the magazine for gun-powder be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gurney,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, on the ſubject of the aforeſaid reſolution, and to make report.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the repairs of *Mud-Iſland* be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Paul* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee for that purpoſe, and to make report.

Reſolved, That ſo much of the meſſage of Council as refers to the appointment of an agent on behalf of this ſtate, to endeavour to effect a ſettlement of accounts with the United States, be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Vaux* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the ſaid reſolution.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the road from *Frank*'s-*town* to *Conemaugh,* and the balance claimed by *Robert Galbraith,* Eſquire, be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Marſhall* and Mr. *D. Stewart* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution, and to make report.

Reſolved, That ſo much of the meſſage of Council as relates to enabling aliens to purchaſe and hold lands within this ſtate be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawle,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Hoge* be a committee, on the ſubject of the ſaid reſolution, and to make report.

Reſolved, That that part of the meſſage of Council which refers to the memorial of the Truſtees of the Hoſpital on *State-Iſland* be referred to a committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Paul* and Mr. *Lloyd* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the ſaid reſolution, and to report thereon.

Reſolved, That proviſion be made for defraying the neceſſary expences which may ariſe from the viſit of ſome of the Chiefs of the Six *Indian* Nations, of which information has been communicated by the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 28th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the ſecond election diſtrict in the county of *Waſhington,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the ſeveral petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, on the ſubject matter of a new election diſtrict, beg leave to report,——

That they have examined and conſidered the ſubject matter of ſaid petitions, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners for a new election diſtrict is juſt and reaſonable, and ought to be granted; and ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to enable the inhabitants of that part of *Shaughan*'s diſtrict remaining in *Waſhington* county, and alſo of a part of the ſecond diſtrict, commonly known by the name of *Bentley*'s diſtrict, in ſaid county, to hold their annual elections at the houſe now occupied by *David Hamilton.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on the memorial of the Maſter-Warden, on behalf of himſelf and the Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Maſter-Warden of the port of *Philadelphia,* report——

That although the duties of the Wardens have been conſiderably diminiſhed by the ceſſion made to the United States per act of the twenty-eighth day of *September* laſt, there remain other duties, of too much importance to the trade of the port, to ſuffer the board to be diſſolved, eſpecially as there is reaſon to believe that Congreſs will, in the courſe of their next ſeſſion, appropriate a ſum adequate to all the duties of this buſineſs; that in the mean time proviſion be made, as well to diſcharge the ſum of *ſeventy-nine pounds ſix ſhillings and three-pence* now owing, as to provide for what expences may ariſe until the end of the next ſeſſion of General Aſſembly: The committee beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to diſcharge the ſum of *ſeventy-nine pounds ſix ſhillings and three-pence,* out of the monies appropriated for claims and improvements, and to bring in a clauſe or clauſes to repeal ſo much of the act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the fourth day of *October,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight, and the ſupplement

ment thereto, paſſed the twenty-ſeventh day of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, as relates to the tonnage-officer, and the reports of pilots at the Wardens-office; and alſo to make proviſion for diminiſhing the current expences of the ſaid office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 1223 inhabitants of the county of *Mifflin*, read *Auguſt* 28th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Carſon* and Mr. *Harris*, to report thereon.

The letter from *Charles Smith* and *Simon Snyder*, Eſquires, read *Auguſt* 28th, was read the ſecond time, together with its encloſures.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for altering certain election diſtricts in the* "*county of* Northampton," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to re-" form the penal laws of this ſtate," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter the time of holding the County Courts* "*of Common Pleas and Quarter Seſſions for the county of* Delaware," was read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed for a third reading, and forthwith publiſhed for conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 3, 1790. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment; and

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Clerk of the General Aſſembly.*

TO THE CITIZENS OF *PENNSYLVANIA.*

IN the conſtitution, which received its public completion on the ſecond inſtant, it is eſtabliſhed, that "The Legiſlative power of this commonwealth ſhall be veſted in a General Aſſembly, which ſhall conſiſt of a Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives."

No proviſion is made, in any part of it, for the temporary continuance of the Legiſlative functions of the Houſe of Aſſembly: Hence it has been doubted, whether our powers did not ceaſe with the adoption of the conſtitution; whether a Legiſlature, conſiſting of a ſingle Houſe, could bind the people by laws, after the people had declared that their laws ſhould be the act of two Houſes, with the ſanction, under certain regulations, of the Chief Executive Officer. We have conſidered that the power veſted in the late Convention was neceſſarily ſuperior to ours, though derived from the ſame ſource, at the ſame time. To them was intruſted the office of making a new plan of government, after an *avowed* experience of the inconveniences of the former; to us, the taſk of common and neceſſary legiſlation, while they were ſo employed. As they were not reſtrained in their appointment to any time at which the government they might form ſhould commence in its effect, it is obvious that they were no leſs maſters of this circumſtance, than of the different parts and principles of which the ſyſtem ſhould be compoſed.

To deny, therefore, the authority of the Convention to ſuperſede the powers we poſſeſſed, would be to diſpute the authority of the people from whom we received our powers, and to whom we are accountable for the exerciſe of them.

In this peculiar ſituation we have not relied altogether on our own judgment. We have conſulted with the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council (who are expreſly continued in office) with the Judges, and other reſpectable authorities in the profeſſion of the law.

We have found their opinions generally to coincide with ours. We have alſo contemplated the impropriety of proceeding under an authority doubtful, and perhaps extinguiſhed, at a conſiderable expence to the commonwealth, to enact laws, which perhaps will not be enforced, and to direct meaſures, which might only terminate in diſorder and diſobedience.

We have therefore thought it our duty to retire from the ſtations in which we were placed, although it is with regret that we leave much neceſſary buſineſs unfiniſhed.

We have alſo conſidered ourſelves under the obligation of informing you, to whom we hold ourſelves accountable for our public conduct, of the reaſons which have induced us to decline the further exerciſe of the truſt which you have repoſed in us.

SEPTEMBER 4*th*, 1790.

Lawrence Sickle,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Rawle,
Francis Gurney,
Richard Peters,
Samuel Aſhmead,
Thomas Paul,
Thomas Britton,
Elias Boys,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
James Bryan,
Richard Thomas,
Richard Downing, jun.
Caleb James,
John M'Dowell,
James Clemſon,
John Hopkins,
Henry Dering,
James Cunningham,
John Miller,
Joſeph Reed,
Jacob Schmyſer,
John Stewart,
Thomas Lilley,
William Godfrey,
Thomas Clingan,
David Mitchell,
Jonathan Hoge,
John Ludwig,
Nicholas Lutz,
Daniel Leinbach,
Peter Ealer,
Stephen Balliot,
Conrad Ibrie, jun.
Anthony Lerch, jun.
John Moore,
John White,
John Baird,
James Barr,
Thomas Ryerſon,
James Marſhall,
Alexander Wright,
John Gilchreeſt,
James Johnſon,
John Rhea,
Jonathan Roberts,
Benjamin Markley,
James Vaux,
John Carſon,
James M'Creight,
Obadiah Gore,
David Stewart,
John Nevil,
Hugh Lloyd,
Richard Riley.

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